

HISTORY
OF THE
WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA
GANU ASSOCIATION
(WNGGA)
1929-2003

By

Colonel Alfred J. Reese, Jr., USA Retired
Past President, WNGGA

WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA
GANU ASSOCIATION
International Headquarters
Hartland, MI
2004

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First Edition

To

all those past and present members who provided the inspiration, to those past and present Officers and Trustees who committed their dedication, to individuals of the local venue committees who took the initiative, to all those unnamed participants who contributed their talents and, especially, to the following Secretaries and successor Executive Directors who provided the continuity.

**George Bundy 1934-1966
Jack Meadows 1966-1983
Nelson L. Llewellyn 1983-1998
Dr. Ellis J. Jones 1998-2003**

The information compiled in this publication has been taken from archived records of the WNGGA and is included in most cases directly as recorded. Misspelling of names and words have inevitably occurred in some recorded documents over the past 75 years, not having the benefit and convenience of word processing tools that we have access to today. An attempt has been made to note where this has occurred.

The possible misspelling or misuse of several Welsh words have also been included. It occurs in any living language that you learn to speak at your mothers' knee, so colloquialisms are to be expected. This includes the inconsistent mutation of the words 'cymanfa/gymanfa' and 'cymanfaoedd/gymanfaoedd' (**a** cymanfa/cymanfaoedd and **the** gymanfa/gymanfaoedd) The spoken usage of this word has been widely debated, of which we will stay away from in this document.

2004 WNGGA Publications Committee

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INTRODUCTION

Faye and I attended our first Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, the 55th, held in Columbus, OH in 1986. We really did not know what to expect since we had never been involved in Welsh-American activities nor had any idea of what went on at a National Gymanfa Ganu. I did not know how to pronounce Gymanfa Ganu.

We enjoyed the Friday evening dinner, the Saturday concert of the Rhos Male Voice Choir and I learned how to pronounce its home Rhosllanerchrugog. With that, I felt confident I could master the Welsh language, at least that appearing in hymns and while singing with a thousand others. The Sunday bi-lingual church service was an indication of things to come. But it was the Gymanfa Ganu sessions in the magnificent Palace Theater in downtown Columbus that was a revelation to me. The Palace seemed filled to capacity and, for the first time, I was overwhelmed with the singing of those beautiful, moving, and, sometimes, haunting Welsh hymns. I was lost when the singing was in Welsh, but I could still feel the emotion that flowed throughout the Palace. The day ended, believe it or not, with more informal singing throughout the Columbus Hyatt Regency and the attached Ohio Center that lasted until early morning hours.

I was entranced, charmed, captivated, fascinated, all the words synonymous with being hooked. I left Columbus with new feeling of refreshment and determination to become part of the great organization responsible for this wonderful feeling.

During 1989-91, as president of the National Welsh-American Foundation, I attended the meetings of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (WNGGA) Board of Trustees as one of its ex-officio non-voting vice presidents. I became a full-fledged member of the Board of Trustees when elected to it in September 1990. At the completion of six years as a WNGGA trustee, I became vice president in 1996 and its president for 1990-2000. In 1994, I became editor of *HWYL*, the membership newsletter of the Association.

At the Harrisburg National Gymanfa Ganu of 1995, I announced my intention to write a history of the WNGGA, identified it as a long-term project requiring the gathering of all available data, and asked for the help of everyone. This gathering, along with other projects, took the better part of six years. Work began on the first draft in 2001. The intent was to have both The Compendium and The History available for the 75th Anniversary Celebration, The Nelson L. Llewellyn Gymanfa Ganu now to be held Buffalo, NY in 2004. Starting in September 2002, writing became a daily task that continued for over a year.

Originally planned for Niagara Falls, NY where it all started, the site of the 2004 anniversary Gymanfa Ganu had to be changed to Buffalo because of the conversion of facilities in Niagara Falls into a gambling casino. Bus transportation will be provided for the trip to Niagara Falls for celebration of the anniversary at Goat Island, scene of the first National Gymanfa Ganu.

I am not a holder of a major in English, not a trained historian and, as one who only recently remembered his Welsh ancestry, certainly not an expert on all things Welsh. This history is written by a great admirer of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, its Officers and Board of Trustees and the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu and one who believes its story deserves to be told.

Many of the experiences of Faye and myself about the Nationals and the Association are included and may call for an apology. However, frequent attempts to gather input from members, in the form of anecdotes, impressions, and memories to personalize the history resulted in little, if any, response. Perhaps publication of this history will jog memories or inspire others to provide their experiences. If so, it may be possible to add these to future editions.

I call your attention to the Preface. It provides the modus operandi I followed in writing The History of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Please remember the appendices since much of the history is found there.

The History of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is not written only for those already familiar with its work and the Nationals. More importantly, it is written for the benefit of the vast majority of the Welsh on this continent who don't have a faintest idea of their Welsh culture, heritage and language. I did not begin to appreciate all of this until 1979 when, at 55 years, I started down the road that led to this fascinating story.

ERRORS ARE INEVITABLE. I HOPE THEY ARE MINOR. HOWEVER, MAJOR OR
MINOR, THEY ARE MY RESPONSIBILITY.

Alfred J. Reese, Jr.

Colonel, USA Ret.

Lehighton, PA

December 2003

PREFACE

The History of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, covering the period 1929-2003, is actually two documents: The Compendium and The History.

The first, The Compendium, is a condensation of 72 Programs of the Annual National Gymanfaoedd (a stack 12 inches high); and approximately 900 pages of minutes of the National Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees and the Annual General meetings. An indication of the growth of the Association, or at least the increase in discussion, can be seen by a comparison of the contents of a 2 ½ inch stack of minutes: the first covering 48 years (1929-1976), the second 19 years (1977-1995) and the third 8 years (1996-2003). To a limited extent, these minutes are supplemented with associated correspondence and newspaper articles. These sources constitute the bibliography.

With a few exceptions, I was not able to benefit from the archives at the WNGGA International Headquarters. Their relatively recent organization, time and distance restraints and recent movement all prevented a full exploration of these assets. This will have to wait for a possible future addendum.

The purpose of The Compendium was to record in one place the important events and decisions that have formed and guided the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association for the past 75 years. Remember that the Nationals were suspended during the 1943-45 World War II years. The Compendium is the medium for stating the facts as extracted from minutes and Programs. The printed Programs have been extremely important in providing a picture of the growth and development of the Annual Gymanfaoedd from a one-day event to a four-day celebration and the dawning of The North American Festival of Wales. In condensing these documents, especially the minutes, exact wording is identified with quotation marks. Wording in both The Compendium and The History has often been rearranged for purpose of shortening the length. For this reason, unless there is something unusual, opening prayers and songs, letters of recognition, identification of those making motions and seconds, acceptance of reports, thank you remarks, congratulations or appreciations or other routine actions are not included. The minutes are replete with such positive actions or statements. Because of its length and the time required to compile it, the Compendium is not precise as to grammar and punctuation.

The History, a further condensation based on The Compendium, distills the essence of the WNGGA into a readable and interesting story. With the above in mind, the text of The History is not cluttered with footnotes. The Compendium, on file at the WNGGA International Headquarters and selected libraries, is available for those wanting more details.

I cannot emphasize too often or too much that the Appendices are very important. A very substantial part of the history is found there. For example, anyone wanting to follow the evolution of the WNGGA Constitution, from its origin in 1935 to the present, will find this information in Appendix A to The History.

When items are reported on during Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, and the Annual General meetings, they are not repeated for each meeting but are reported where most appropriate. Details and results of elections are not included in the body of The History unless something unusual occurred. Appendices B-WNGGA Officers and C-WNGGA Trustees list all those who served and contributed their time and experience in managing the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association

A report on each of the Nationals, based on the printed Programs, follows the extracts of Executive, Board of Trustees, and Annual General Meeting minutes. Space did not permit the listing of all individuals, groups and events that made up a National. Rather the intent is to identify sufficient individuals and groups and describe enough specific events to provide a representative picture of what takes place during a National. **Biographical entries provide information as it was current when the individuals participated.** Appendices D and E list those individuals who carried out such important and vital responsibilities as local venue chairs and conductors of the National Gymanfaedd. Appendix F presents an arguably selective listing of personalities who displayed the spirit of the Gymanfa Ganu by making significant and/or repeated contributions of their time and talent. Appendix G describes the beginning and development of the events that are part of a National Gymanfa Ganu. Appendix H reports on other WNGGA activities such as Scholarships and Grants. Appendices I, J and K cover Publications, Important Miscellanies and Membership. I must emphasize the Important in Important Miscellanies since Appendix J presents important information regarding a wide range of subjects.

Financial statements, reporting the results of a National, appear in the report of the specific National even though, in most cases, they are submitted after the National and included in the minutes of the following year's meetings. When breaking down receipts and disbursements, only significant or unusual items are indicated. For this reason, the included amounts will not always add up to the reported totals. Detailed financial reports on selected Nationals appear in Appendix L WNGGA financial reports are summarized in the body of The History with selected reports detailed in Appendix L. Appendix M makes use of the Opinion **IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FOURTH APPELLATE DISTRICT, DIVISION TWO, filed** on 11/4/03, that ended almost two years of costly and distracting legal harassment [the court used the word "harrying"] of the WNGGA. Finally, Appendix N recaps the time line in the life of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association

Years are grouped, somewhat appropriately, in chapters of The History. Beginning with Chapter 3, each chapter is introduced with a précis of its contents. From the beginning, each chapter will be followed with a clearly titled Commentary containing the author's opinions, analyses and/or summation of the chapter based on close reading of the source documents and his familiarity with some of the later principals of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. On occasion where more appropriate, comments of this type are indicated in brackets [] within the body of the chapter. While both these additions reflect my opinions and are not necessarily those of the Board of Trustees.

Where reference is made to Program with a capital P, it is the official Program listing events during an Annual National Gymanfa Ganu. The term "festival" is often used interchangeably with the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu. It may be possible that an event scheduled in the Program, such as a

seminar or tour, did not occur because of insufficient subscriptions. Where location of cities is obvious, no mention of states or provinces is made. Abbreviations of states is as done currently i.e. PA rather than Pa. Capitalized numbers (i.e.Sixth) are used where obvious to reduce repetitions of Annual National Gymanfa Ganu in discussion of a specific annual. The term Association is interchangeable with National Gymanfa Ganu Association and Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. In its broadest sense, The Association is the totality of its membership, its governing body the Board of Trustees made up of its Officers and Trustees, the Executive Director and the International Headquarters. WNGGA, depending on its usage, is often meant to mean the International Headquarters. For simplicity, the National Gymanfa Ganu Association is abbreviated NGGA rather than N.G.G.A. and the National Executive Committee (N.E.C), sometimes called the National Executive Board, is abbreviated NEC. Conductor of a National Gymanfa Ganu is used in preference to director to avoid any confusion.

In a few instances, there are unavoidable gaps caused by non-availability of reports or correspondence. However, since most of the subjects of these missing documents are covered in other reports, these do not detract from the overall completeness of The History or its presentation of a historical view of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

PROLOGUE

Dr. Edward G. Hartmann in his *Americans From Wales* (Boston: The Christopher Publishing House, 1967), the definitive work on Welsh emigration to America, identified the Eisteddfod, the Gymanfa Ganu and the Gorsedd as three unique institutions created by the Welsh people.

The relative importance of two of these three institutions in Wales, the Eisteddfod and the Gymanfa Ganu, may be reflected in recently published or reprinted histories of Wales. An admittedly cursory review of the indices of *History of Wales* by **John Davies** (1993), *Wales-A History of* by **Gwynfor Evans** (reprinted 1996), *History of Wales* edited by **Prys Morgan** (2001), *The Heart of Wales-An Anthology* edited by **James A. Davies** (1994) and the popular *The Matter of Wales* by **Jan Morris** (1984) all provide significant coverage of the Eisteddfod in Wales. However, there is an almost total disregard of the Gymanfa Ganu. This may be a reflection of the relative importance of these institutions in Wales and confirms the predominance of the Eisteddfod, The National Eisteddfod of Wales, in Wales.

The following summary of the origin of the Eisteddfod and the Gymanfa Ganu in Wales and their movement to America, following immigration of the Welsh, is taken exclusively from **Dr. Hartmann's** *Americans From Wales*, reprinted in 2001 by the National Welsh-American Foundation. Dr. Hartmann cited **Tom Parry's** *The Eisteddfod of Wales*, Denbigh, Wales (National Eisteddfod Council), n.d., pp. 25-38 as a principal source for his information.

The first eisteddfod to be so called was held in 1450 at Carmarthen. From time to time, eisteddfodau were held at various places during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries for which data is scanty. A revival, initiated by the Gweneddigion Society of London, occurred in 1789 when three eisteddfodau were held (Jan-Llangollen, May-Corwen and September-Bala). The first great National Eisteddfod was held in 1858 at Llangollen followed by another in 1860 at Denbigh. It was here that it was decided to hold the festivals annually rotating between North and South Wales. In 1880, the National Eisteddfod Association was formed and supervised the annuals until 1927 when it was replaced that year by the National Eisteddfod Council.

Holding Eisteddfodau in the United States started in the mid-1880's with the largest held at Hyde Park in Scranton, PA in 1867. Another large Eisteddfod, the Chicago International, was held in 1893 in conjunction with the Columbian Exposition. The National Eisteddfod Association of American was formed in 1923 and held annuals until 1940. The Utica Eisteddfod, formed in 1858, went out of existence following its 101st in 1958. The oldest Eisteddfod, still in existence in the United States, is the Edwardsville, PA "Cynonfardd Eisteddfod" formed in 1887. Its 114th Annual Eisteddfod was held in Edwardsville on 26 April 2003. "Cynonfardd" was the bardic name assumed by **Dr. Thomas C. Edwards** when he was named Archdruid of America. Cynonfardd is translated Cynon (the Cynon, a stream in the Cynon Valley where Edwards lived his early years) and fardd [from *bardd*], the Welsh for bard or poet.

Reverend John Roberts (Ieuan Gwyllt) was credited with holding the first Gymanfa Ganu at Aberdare, Wales in 1859. He was a Calvinistic-Methodist minister and one of the great hymn writers. The three main denominations in Wales began holding festivals and the Gymanfa Ganu became a fundamental institution of the Welsh.

Hartmann identified the Gymanfa Ganu as a twentieth century phenomenon. By the 1920's, scores of gymanfaoedd were being held on a total Welsh basis rather than a denominational basis as in Wales. He contended that "as the Americanization of the Welsh-American communities progressed, the Eisteddfod was replaced by the Gymanfa Ganu, or Welsh singing festival, as the popular institution of Welsh-Americans. Although by this time many of the latter could no longer handle Welsh as a living language, they still could sing in Welsh for they had been taught to do so from their early Sunday School days. Love of the old Welsh hymns and singing of the same in Welsh lingers on in most of the Welsh-American communities. This nostalgia for the days of their youth and the remembrances associated with the same is the reason why the Gymanfa Ganu is still a strong institution in America today."

While much of Hartmann's view may have changed since his 1967 first edition of *Americans From Wales*, his conclusion that "the Eisteddfod has practically died out in America...too intimately associated with the Welsh language to survive the Americanization of Welsh-American Communities" has proven true. Those few that survive today are conducted, predominantly, in English alone. His view that "The

Gymanfa Ganu remains strongly entrenched and is likely to remain so largely because it requires only a love of community singing" has also proven true. However, his prediction that "The time will come unquestionably when substitution of English for Welsh words will occur" has not occurred. His opinion "that the Gymanfa Ganu, and it only, will be the institution that the Welsh contribute to the American musical way of life" seems to be a fact. Perhaps this is so because there are many like my wife Faye and myself. When we both attended our first National Gymanfa Ganu neither of us could speak or sing any Welsh. Over the years, with the courage gained while singing with a thousand or so others, we became reasonably proficient and comfortable singing the most popular hymns in Welsh. My self-esteem in this matter blossomed when, during a Gymanfa Ganu of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association, the wife of one of the members of the performing male voice choir from Wales asked if I was from Wales. When she learned that I was not she was highly complimentary of the quality of my Welsh during the Welsh hymn singing.

There is little doubt that the Eisteddfod holds the prominent place in Wales while the Gymanfa Ganu does the same on the North American continent. It remains to be seen if the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association will be successful in adding an annual eisteddfod to its North American Festival of Wales.

PART I-BEGINNING

1929-1948

CHAPTER 1

What is The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and the Gymanfa Ganu?

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is the premier ethnic organization serving the Welsh Community of North America. Its Purpose, defined in its Constitution, is “To preserve, develop, and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage and our religious and cultural traditions, including but not limited to the Gymanfa Ganu, and to do all things necessary and proper to accomplish and enhance the same.” It has been exceedingly successful in carrying out this stated purpose. It is recognized throughout the world as the principal exponent of Welsh culture, heritage and the Welsh language in North America. The Gymanfa Ganu, The Assembly or Festival for Sacred Song, is the principal instrument in carrying out its Purpose.

What is the Gymanfa Ganu and how do you pronounce it? By strict dictionary definition the Cymanfa Canu is A Singing Festival. Colloquialism has changed C to a G and Gymanfa Ganu is the most common usage in North America. It is not pronounced Gimmanfa (with short “i” or with the letter “f” as in for) Ganyou. The Gy in Gymanfa is like “Ga” in garage. A single “f” is pronounced as the letter “v” in English. The letter “u” in Ganu is like the long “e” in queen. Gymanfa Ganu is pronounced Gamanva Ganee. [I’m sure there are many other versions of the pronunciation. Another is Gum-an-va Ganny.]

With this as a beginning, let’s look for further understanding of the Gymanfa Ganu and its use. The Gymanfa Ganu was brilliantly defined by Judge David G. Jenkins in an article that appears on the inside front cover of the official hymnal produced by the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

The Gymanfa Ganu

By Judge David G. Jenkins

1879-1970

It is not generally known, but a fact nevertheless, that part singing had its origin and early development among the Cymry, or as the English called them, the Welsh. A famous historian, Giraldus, writing in 1188, speaks of their skill in vocal music, which they sang in parts, and not, as elsewhere, in unison. This skill and custom, developed through the ages, finds its expression today in the Gymanfa Ganu, the Assembly or Festival for Sacred Song.

This institution, in its present form less than a century old, is expressive of the soul of the Cymry, or Welsh, since it gives an outlet for their deep and fervent

religious feeling through the medium they love the best, the music of human voices blended in harmony. It is, as it must be to be Welsh, a democratic institution, for persons in all positions in life take part in it. It is devoted to four-part singing of hymns and anthems, and has given the congregational singing of the Welsh people concededly first place among the nations.

The beginnings of the Gymanfa Ganu were humble, in the little chapels and churches which in such numbers dot the hills and vales of Cambria. After the regular religious service was over the congregation would remain for an hour of song. Unaccompanied by any instrument—for the Puritan spirit was never stronger in New England than in old Wales—led by a leader, innocent perhaps of musical degrees, who sounded the pitch without even a tuning fork, the congregation would be drilled for a forthcoming Gymanfa. For months a few selected hymns and an anthem or two would be rehearsed; then in a common meeting place congregations of one neighborhood or denomination would unitedly render the selections so prepared, under a conductor specially qualified and chosen. To hear such an outpouring of balanced trained voices leaves an indelible memory.

Since the demands of part singing could not be met by hymns of simple character, meant to be and usually sung in unison, hymns were composed or adapted for this more harmonious phase of vocal music. Some of these composers, such as Ieuan Gwyllt, have produced tunes which, according to the greatest musicians, take rank among the masterpieces of the world. A number of them, rich in melody and harmony, are included in this book.

The Gymanfa Ganu has been an incentive and an inspiration to the best talents among the Welsh composers, for to them there can be no greater glory or higher recognition than to have an accepted place in such an institution.

Music, like religion, speaks a universal language; and like it, too, it uplifts and benefits all it touches. To extend its beneficial influence through the medium which has made such a deep impression on Welsh life, the National Gymanfa Ganu has been formed as a permanent American institution, giving promise that in this, our beloved land, the devotional spirit of our Cymric forebears, shall, through it, find even wider expression.

To the spirit of America gallant little Wales has contributed much. It is confidently believed that the Gymanfa Ganu is not least among these gifts.

Another version of the Gymanfa Ganu in Wales, by an unidentified author, was extracted, in part, from the Program for the Sixth National (1934) in Cleveland.

The Gymanfa Ganu

The Gymanfa Ganu is a Welsh institution. It is a Sacred Song Festival that has become an important part of Welsh life. It is confined to the singing of Hymns and Anthems. To attend one of these Festivals in a City or Town in Wales, and

there to see the people gather in one great throng from far and near, and to hear their singing of masterpieces of sacred music under the leadership of a national musical leader expert in the art of conducting a singing group is an experience never to be forgotten. These festivals differ greatly from what is generally referred to as community singing. In these festivals there is nothing other than four-part singing. The months of rehearsing in every community, finally winding up in the festival itself, carried on from

year to year, has created an interest in, and effort with, better music in Wales to the extent of placing it in the front ranks of the nations of the world in congregational and hymn singing. While the festivals are conducted largely within denominational lines, it is not likely that any known institution furnishes a more perfect example of democracy. In these festivals, side by side, are found the master and his servant, mistress and maid, banker and farmer, rich and poor, completely divesting themselves of the world's cares and burdens for the time being and joining together in producing a feast of song that gives expression to the deepest and best in man. In a Presbyterian Festival a composition of a Catholic Cardinal is sung with the same fervor as that of a Unitarian layman. It is not necessary to say that this institution has made, and is still making, a tremendous impression upon the cultural, moral and spiritual life of the Welsh people. It has produced a congregational singing ranking as the world's best.

Commentary

As best can be determined from the above two articles, the Gymanfa Ganu, originating in Wales, was a chapel centered event that grew into something like a regional festival. The Gymanfa Ganu continues in Wales today with somewhat reduced frequency following the decline of the chapel. There is no National Gymanfa Ganu although the Gymanfa Ganu is an important part of the annual National Eisteddfod of Wales. Here in the United States and Canada many gymanfaoedd are sponsored by local St. David Societies, regional Welsh oriented organizations, and Welsh influenced churches. The Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu in the United States and Canada is the only known national level Gymanfa Ganu in the world.

CHAPTER 2

The First National Gymanfa Ganu

BRIEF HISTORY OF N.G.G.A.—1929-1933, by 1933 National President **Geo D. Rees**, appeared in the Program for the National Gymanfa Ganu held, on Sept 1-2, 1951, in Milwaukee.

During the Summer of 1929 the then president and secretary, respectively, of the St. David's Society of Youngstown, Ohio, W. E. Lewis and David J. Lewis, conceived the idea of an over Sunday excursion to Niagara Falls and a Gymanfa Ganu as a feature of the Society's activities. Came the day, Labor Day Sunday, September 1st, 1929, when some 1400 from the Western Reserve and about 1000 others from scattered points gathered on Goat Island, Niagara Falls, and raised their voices in songs of praise. This was the beginning of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association. The thought immediately took root and through the efforts of THE DRUID and W. B. Jones, N.G.G.A. treasurer, assisted by Cymric friends of Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, London, and other points, successful Gymanfas were held at the First Presbyterian Church, Niagara Falls, each succeeding year.

May this institution nurtured so carefully in its infancy continue to grow and become the outstanding Welsh event every year. Long live the N.G.G.A. Who shall gainsay its benefits, not only in the direct spiritual sense but as a means to that end, through the medium of Welsh-American cultural growth.

The Youngstown Telegram (Ohio), of Tuesday, Aug. 27, 1929, carried the following article announcing the travel of a group of Welsh people to Niagara Falls, New York.

MANY WELSH GOING TO FALLS

Professor Prosser To Be in Charge Of Music

Professor I. E. Prosser, director of the Masonic Glee Club, will be the Conductor of the music festival at Niagara Falls next Sunday under the auspices of the St. David's society and the Women's Welsh American Clubs.

Tho a special train leaves Pittsburgh Saturday night for the falls a number of Welsh people from that city will come to Youngstown and join the local contingent. Many from Cleveland also will come here to go on the excursion as the local excursion is the only one which permits the visitors to stay at the falls to see the brilliant illumination system. All other excursions leave too early in the evening.

Other towns which will join Youngstown are: New Castle, Sharon, Farrell, Greenville, Pa., Niles, Girard, Hubbard, Alliance, Canton, and Akron. Two trains will leave here, the second within 10 minutes after the first. The first train will start from Warren and stop at Niles, Youngstown, Sharon and Greenville. The trains will leave Niagara Falls for home at 10:15 and 10:25.

Douglas Morgan, of Oak Hill Ave., in charge of tickets, reports them going well and the advance sale indicates the two trains will be filled.

This report of the First National Gymanfa Ganu (September 1, 1929) appeared in the September 5, 1929 issue of *Y DRYCH*. The report, by **Ellis Hughes**, was published in Welsh. It was translated by the late **Dr. Phillips G. Davies** and appeared in the February 1980 issue of *Y DRYCH*.

Yn Cael Gymanfa Ganu Gymreig yn Swm y Niagara Falls
(Having a Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Within the Sound of Niagara Falls)

Thousands There

The Occasion is a Great Success, and All Praise It

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.—The Gymanfa Ganu was held at two o' clock last Saturday [this article said Saturday everything else in print said Sunday, September 1, 1929] on the field at Goat Island. As we know, the zealous Welsh of Youngstown, Ohio started the movement, and to them is the praise for the most part. We got through the means of the Drych the opportunity to get the thing advertised.

There were strong delegations from Youngstown, Akron, Alliance, Niles, Warren, and Cleveland, Ohio; Detroit, Michigan; Pittsburgh, Scranton, Sharon and New Castle, Pa; Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and New York, N.Y.; Toronto, Hamilton, Welland, St. Catherine's, London, and Niagara Falls, Ontario; along with several other places. It is believed that three thousand were present.

The crowd was much greater than expected, and many failed to get to the place of the meeting. We are sorry for that. If there are any readers of the Drych who suffered from this trouble, we did not say sufficiently plainly how to get there.

The officials at the park were very generous by collecting a number of benches together in an orderly and neat way. Also a blessed band stand was prepared for the Shredded Wheat orchestra. This was very impressive to us.

The president of the day was Dr. E. Pugh Thomas of Buffalo, and he knew very well to keep the audience happy. On the platform were these respected gentlemen: Richard Humphrey of Buffalo who has reached his 81st birthday. We were very glad to see him enjoying himself so excellently. Also Gomerian and W. B. Jones of Pittsburgh; W. G. Griffiths, the representative of the Welsh White star Line of New York, along with several others.

The conductors were Isaac Prosser of Youngstown, Ohio and Evan Harries of Buffalo, and there was great praise for their work from all.

Diadem, Cwm Rhondda, Maesgwyn, Bryn Calfaria, Aberystwyth, Dies Irae, Ton-y-Botel, Tanymarian, Babel. Andulusia, Huddersfield and Sandon were sung. The accompanists were Miss May Williams of Youngstown and Miss Dilys Hughes of Niagara Falls.

We had blessed singing, and it is certain that there will be talk about it for a long time to come.

There also were solos by Mrs. Bessie Richards (Llinos Daf) of Hamilton, Ont.; Evan Harries and W. Miles Thomas of Buffalo, and two duets by George Anthony and Harry Evans of New Castle, Pa. (The first time we had the privilege of hearing and meeting George Anthony was in Canada at Winnipeg when the choir of Glyndr Richards was there and there was an excellent reception for them.)

They were all received with deafening applause. The friends there gave their services without being paid, and we thank them for this.

There was a great expectation among the assembly to hear Madam A. Davies of Hamilton, Ont. sing. Because of her engagements back home in the chapel and at the college, it was not possible for her to come.

The two accompanists were presented with basket of fragrant flowers, Professor Evan Harries presented Miss Dilys Hughes on the part of the Welsh of Youngstown, Ohio, and the neighborhood and Professor Isaac Prosser presented them to Miss May Williams on behalf of the Welsh of Buffalo and its neighborhood.

The Gymanfa was thoroughly successful and perfect, and praise of it was heard from all. At the end we had the opportunity to renew old friendships and to make new friends. We saw the faces of several in the audience whom we would greatly love to have gotten a word with. May the friends who were here forgive me if I failed to mention them.

After dining, a number of important Welsh met with each other at Hannel's Restaurant to think about the future, and it was decided to move forward, and to have a general Gymanfa Ganu the next year again in Niagara Falls the first Sunday in September. It would be agreeable to get the cooperation of the Welsh of the various cities in order to make the thing a great success.

Will Lewis of Youngstown was chosen the president, the vice-president was Ellis Hughes of Niagara Falls, Dave Lewis of Youngstown was the secretary, and W. B. Jones of Pittsburg (sic) was the treasurer. There will be more about this later.

I am thankful to all who were so kind to us during the festival in making it a success. We had palms, etc. adorning the platform through the kindness of Premier Flower Shop and two Welsh flags from M. J. Rees and friends of Welland, and the Star [sic] and Stripes and the British flag from the town. We had perfect weather.

VISITORS

I believe that we have never seen such a number of visitors in the city ever before. Strange is the attraction that the Fall has for people, and some had come on excursion trains from a very long distance. We came across many from Wales, and truly we understand that they rented a hotel for the festival and they filled it easily. Lest I make a mistake with anybody, it is best I leave out his or her names.

It was the greatest of pleasures to get to meet with the friends here, and we wish them great success one and all.

Commentary

From this description of the first National Gymanfa Ganu, one may think that it was a fairly simple Sunday afternoon gathering of a bunch of singers. Handouts probably included a single sheet program and sheets with the hymns to be sung. No evidence of these has been found. In comparison with today's Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, or as it has evolved into an important part of The North American Festival of Wales, it was comparatively simple. However, this does not mean that it was not a chancy undertaking and one fraught with opportunity for failure. The coordination of rail travel arrangements, almost impossible today, required some expertise. What would bad weather have done? Its success provided the foundation for these distinguished past 75 years and augurs well for its future.

I first met **William Thomas** in 1996 or 1997 while attending the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association (OGGA) Welsh Festival in Niagara Falls, ON. I discovered that he attended the 1929 National Gymanfa Ganu in Niagara Falls, NY. I fully intended to correspond with him but failed to get his address. Fortunately, while walking the isles at the 1999 OGGA festival, I spied him and did not fail this time. I interviewed him in the hotel with the following results.

William Thomas was born in Llandradach, in the Rhymney Valley in South Wales, on 23 August 1909. On his 14th birthday, he received a present, a job in the local mines. After almost six years there, he decided to improve his life and economic prospects. Having family and friends already in Canada who told him of job prospects, he decided that Canada was the place to do all this. He sailed for Canada on the SS Minissedosa, using £10 [there may also have been a government subsidy] loaned by his sister and arrived in Canada on 2 June 1929. He remembers that the Welsh spent most of the time on the deck singing Welsh hymns.

Shortly after his arrival, he attended that first National with friends from his hometown in Wales. He recalled that it was a beautiful day, the crowd was large and enthusiastic, and the singing of Welsh hymns overcame the roar of the falls. He felt that this Gymanfa Ganu was a big help in his understanding that a part of Wales was here in Canada for him. In a not insignificant way the Gymanfa Ganu, during the festivals of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association, kept this memory strong,

William achieved all of his objectives in moving to Canada. He found work with Norton Abrasives, staying with Norton for 37 ½ years and rising to Plant Superintendent and, finally, a Manufacturing Consultant

William Thomas died on 2 April 2002 at 92 years.

CHAPTER 3

Founding of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association

(1929-1932)

The Nationals of 1930-32 were all held in the First Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls, NY. They were all afternoon events. All sessions, then as now, opened with an Invocation and ended with a Benediction. Business meetings started in 1930

1929

Niagara Falls, NY

The first notice of a national organization appeared in The Youngstown Telegraph on Sept. 4, 1929.

WELSH FORM NATIONAL BODY

W.E. Lewis of Youngstown

Elected President

The National Gymanfa association an organization of Welsh people, the purpose of which is to foster community singing in the United States, emerged from the festival held at Niagara Falls Sunday under the auspices of St. David's society [sic] and the Women's Welsh-American Club of Youngstown.

W. E. Lewis and David J. Lewis, both of Youngstown, were elected president and secretary of the national organization. Ellis Hughes of Niagara Falls was chosen vice president and J. R. Jones [actually W. B. Jones] of Pittsburgh was made treasurer. These officers will act as an executive committee, with authority to add to its personnel.

More than 1,200 went to the falls from this district. Including persons from Cleveland, Warren, Niles, Girard, Sharon, Farrell, New Castle and other nearby towns. At the resort, delegations were met from Buffalo, Rochester, Pittsburgh, and from Toronto, Hamilton, Welland, Brantford and other towns in Canada. Delegations were sent from Utica, New York, Philadelphia, and a number of other cities.

The festival was held on Goat Island. Rev. E. Pugh Thomas, formerly of West Middlesex, Pa. presided, and I. H. Prosser of Youngstown who was assisted by Evan Harries of Buffalo directed the musical selections. Miss May Williams of Youngstown was accompanist. The program was made up of mass singing of familiar

hymns and a number of solos and a duet, which was sung by George Anthony and Harry Evans of New Castle.

Niagara Falls was decided as the Place for the next festival, it being the most central place between the United States and Canada and was set as the Sunday before Labor Day.

No evidence of a Program has been found for the first Gymanfa held in Niagara Falls, NY on Sept. 1, 1929. There was a song sheet titled **SACRED SONG FESTIVAL** (CYMANFA GANU), Niagara Falls, N.Y., Sept 1 1929 Auspices St. David's Society, Youngstown, Ohio. It listed the words only for Diadem, Adeste Fideles (Oh Come, All Ye Faithful), Cwm Rhondda, Maesgwyn, Bryn Calfaria, Aberystwyth, Dies Irae, Ton-Y-Botel, Crug-Y-Bar, Send Thy Spirit (Alexander), Tanymarian, Babel, Andalusia, Huddersfield, Sandon, Hyfrydol, Eventide, and Rachie.

1930

Niagara Falls, NY

The four page Program for the **Second Annual Gymanfa Ganu**, August 31, 1930, stated that it was held under the auspices of the National Gymanfa Association. The founding officers President **W. E. Lewis**, Vice President **Ellis Hughes**, Treasurer **W. B. Jones** and Secretary **David J. Lewis** continued in office. A business session of the National Gymanfa Association was scheduled for 7:30 that evening at the Gorge Terminal Building to which all members of the General Committee were invited. The NOTES indicated that "the opportunity avails for all who desire to participate in the work of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association through the medium of financial contributions---please forward checks to W. B. Jones, Treasurer, 406 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh. Pa." The listed hymns, except for Crug-Y-Bar, were in Welsh and English. The Program carried an ad for *THE DRUID*.

1931

Niagara Falls, NY

Minutes of Third Annual National Gymanfa Ganu indicate that **James Attwood** of Youngstown was elected President. Four Vice Presidents: **William J. Davies**, Utica NY; **Lot H. Cooke**, Buffalo, NY; **Stephen James**, Hamilton, Ont.; and **Geo. D. Rees**, Chicago, IL were elected for the coming year. **Ellis Hughes**, Niagara Falls, NY; was elected Secretary and Treasurer **W. B. Jones** continued to serve.

The Third Annual Gymanfa Ganu, under the auspices of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held in Niagara Falls, NY on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 6, 1931. The Gymanfa opened with *My Country Tis of Thee* and closed with *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau* followed with *God Be With You*. The singing of *God Be With You* began what was to become one of the emotional highlight of the Nationals. During the Intermission there were three minute talks by **Mayor William Laughlin, Dr. A. Van Raalte, Edward Blythin, O. Rhys, F. W. Jones** and others. Thanks were extended to the Artists for their donation of their service, even to expenses.

1932

Niagara Falls, NY

The Fourth Annual Gymanfa Ganu, under the auspices of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association (NGGA), was held in Niagara Falls, NY on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 4, 1932. The front page of the Program had a small section titled *The History of Hymns*:

People have been trying to write the histories of hymn tunes and of hymns. They cannot do it . . .it would be the history of the Church of God with all its joys and sorrows and triumphs. They have been the rounds on the ladder by which souls have mounted into Heaven. They have been the chariots that halter not until they stopped at the gates of the eternal King!---Talmage

During the intermission, there was an introduction of distinguished leaders present. **Edward Blythin**, Esq., of Cleveland, spoke on “The Gymanfa Ganu and its Influence”. As was standard at the time, there was an Offertory. The Cambrian Male chorus of Niagara Falls, NY, under the direction of **Daniel Lloyd**, sang “The Crusaders” by Protheroe and “Martyrs of the Arena” by De Rille. Thanks were also expressed for donations of \$20, \$10, and \$5 to the association treasury.

Minutes of the business meeting at the Fourth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu reported the election of **Geo. D. Rees** as President for the coming year with Treasurer **W. B. Jones** and Secretary **Ellis Hughes** reelected to their offices. No mention was made of Vice Presidents.

Commentary

As one looks back to 1929, one cannot but admire the initiative of **W. E. Lewis** and **David J. Lewis** for their pursuit of an idea and the foresight of all the others who recognized the significance of the idea and took the initial steps to preserve and perpetuate it. That it was a great idea is evident by the steps taken to organize. The succession of officers, receipt of donations and the start of minutes were all portents of a successful future. The wish of **Geo. D. Rees** that “this institution nurtured so carefully in its infancy continue to grow and become the outstanding Welsh event of every year” has been fulfilled. With the exception of the World War II years, 1943-

1945, the institution, the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, continues to grow and holds, without a doubt, the outstanding Welsh event on the North American Continent.

CHAPTER 4
Spreading Inland-Great Lakes Region
(1933-1935)

Expansion to a two-day event, afternoon and evening sessions, and increased size of the Programs all were evidence that the National was firmly established. A concert of massed choirs in Cleveland heralded the advent of choirs as a part of the National. Organizations represented by delegates, establishment of dues, and a division of the proceeds between the local committee and the National treasury were a logical progression followed by the first Constitution and By-Laws in 1935. The Constitution provided for voting delegates from member organizations and authorized individual non-voting members.

1933

Chicago

The Fifth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu and Welsh Music Festival (1933), sponsored by the Chicago Gymanfa Ganu Committee. was the beginning evidence of growth. It was held for two days, September 3 and 4, at the Medina Temple in Chicago. The Program booklet was a 48 page document listing as Patrons: Chief Justice, U. S. Supreme Court, **Hon. Charles Evans Hughes**, Honorary President; former Prime Minister, Great Britain **Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George**; and 17 other distinguished Welsh-American ladies and gentlemen. There were Sunday afternoon and evening sessions of the gymanfa. There were afternoon and evening addresses by **Dr. John H. Evans**, vice chairman of the local committee, and **William Evans** (Ap Cennen) of San Francisco. This gymanfa was the first to present a male voice choir, the Cambrian Male Choir of Cleveland. The Monday evening Concert by Massed Choirs, a second event, was another growth indicator. **Mostyn Thomas** was the soloist. The St. David's Choral Society of Granite City, the Cambrian Welsh Choir of Cleveland, the Milwaukee Welsh Presbyterian Church Choir, and the Waukesha Cymric Choral Society provided the Massed Choirs assisting the Greater Chicago Gymanfa Choir. By special request, the combined choirs sang *Cambria's Song of Freedom*, by **T. J. Davies**, that had been sung at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. The Greater Chicago Gymanfa Choir listed 207 members (with 95 sopranos) and was assisted by 132 in the other choirs. There was a combined total of 50 Jones's and 34 Williams's. Five pages of advertising appeared in the Program.

President **Geo. D. Rees** of Chicago, 19 Vice Presidents, Secretary **Ellis Hughes** of Niagara Falls, NY and Treasurer **W. B. Jones** of Pittsburgh were listed in the Program for the Fifth.. It also listed 38 member organizations (including one from Hamilton, ON and one from Vancouver, BC) of the NGGA representing over 10,000 members and friends.

1934

Cleveland

For the first time, **the minutes for the meeting held during the Sixth in Cleveland** reported that “Nineteen Organizations were represented by delegates”. Also for the first time the use of the word “bid”, as the way for a local group to sponsor a National Gymanfa Ganu, became apparent. **George Bundy**, of Warren, was among the officers elected thus beginning his long and distinguished service as secretary and, for a time, secretary/treasurer. A motion was approved during this meeting for the local sponsoring committee to retain 60% if the surplus realized with 40% being given to the National treasury for purpose of perpetuating the National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Motions were made and carried that “each person paying a sum of 25¢ becomes a member of the Association” and that “each organization may become a member of the Association by contributing the sum of \$1.00 per year”.

The Sixth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Cleveland Welsh Society, was held in the Public Auditorium in Cleveland on Sunday 2 September 1934. The Program included an In Memoriam citing the inclusion of two hymns by **Dr. Daniel Protheroe**, Dean of Welsh-American Musicians “who has been called from his labor to rest since our last Gymanfa in his home city of Chicago”. Words of *The Star Spangled Banner* and *My Country, 'Tis of Thee* appeared for the first time in the Program. The Program also included an announcement on The Welsh Home of the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America, one of the sponsors of the first National and long time supporters of the National Gymanfaoedd.

1935

Youngstown

The seventh meeting of the Association was held in Youngstown, on September 1, 1935, with 52 organizations properly represented. The major activity was presentation, consideration and unanimous adoption of the first Constitution and By-Laws. Specific provisions of this document are contained in Appendix A. The Youngstown sponsoring committee immediately put the By-Laws into effect by remitting 40% of the surplus from the 1935 Festival to the National treasurer.

The Seventh Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Mahoning and Shenango Valley Gymanfa Association, was held in Stambaugh Auditorium, Youngstown on Sunday, September 1, 1935. It was during this gymanfa that designating the president of the Association as chairman for the afternoon session and the vice president of the Association as chairman for the evening session became the practice. For the first time, the Program did not contain the music and words for the Hymns. Page numbers for the hymns were listed but the hymnal was not identified although a National Gymanfa Ganu hymn book was mentioned in the minutes. The Program listed 43 organizational members, all from the United States.

Commentary

The growth and structure of the local committee continued to depict the increased complexity of even a one-day event. The adoption of a Constitution formalized procedures and added stature to the NGGA. It is interesting to note that the word National in the Association's name was always intended to apply to both the United States and Canada. The Constitution clearly provided for a representative from and elected by the local sponsoring committee to serve as a vice president for one year. There was a clear delineation between organization voting delegates and individual non-voting members.

CHAPTER 5

TO THE EAST (1936-1939)

The National began to spread into new territory including Atlantic City, Pittsburgh and Johnstown. A motion to amend the Association name to National Gymanfa Ganu Association of The United States and Canada, Inc. was defeated at the 1938 meeting. Return to a one-day event may have reflected the beginning of international uncertainties culminating in the outbreak of war on 3 September 1939, the day of the National in Buffalo. The sacred nature of the gymanfa was confirmed. The 54 organizational members included 26 Women's Welsh Clubs, one from Canada. A resolution called for the issue of a series of bulletins to the members. The Program for the eleventh in Buffalo in 1939 listed 75 organization members including 8 from Canada.

1936

Atlantic City

The eighth meeting was held in Atlantic City on September 13, 1936. The secretary reported 65 organization members for 1936 with 36 delegates seated. The treasurer reported income of \$323.18 (\$178.68 share from Youngstown and \$144.50 from sale of memberships) and expenses of \$221.20 for a balance in the treasury of \$101.98. A motion to pay the expenses of the secretary in attending the festival carried. The Union Label was inadvertently omitted from the 1936 edition of *Favorite Hymns* even though they were printed in a Union shop. The name National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada appeared on the treasurer's report.

The Eighth Annual Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Atlantic City Welsh Society, was held on Sunday, September 13, 1936. This was the first deviation from the custom of holding it on Labor Day Sunday. The Program featured a poem *On to Atlantic City* by **George Bundy**, Secretary, NGGA. There were other differences during the gymanfa: the president and vice president were not chairs during the sessions, **Rabbi Henry M. Fisher**, Atlantic City, presented the invocation in English during the evening session; *America* was sung beginning each session while *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau* was sung at the close of the evening session. Fifty-four (54) organization members were listed for 1936 including 26 Women's Welsh Clubs of America and the first Canadian organization member, the St. David's Society of Edmonton, Alberta.

1937

Johnstown

The Ninth meeting was held in Johnstown, PA on September 5, 1937. Forty-two (42) organization delegates were seated. The treasurer reported balance on hand and receipts of \$215.23, expenses of \$85.35 for a new balance of \$129.88. Motions carried included “music...be sacred in character and preferably sung in Welsh and English” and “That the local committee present a copy of their program to the NEC [National Executive Committee] before same is printed.”

The Ninth, sponsored by The Cambria County Welsh Society, was held in Cochran Junior High School, Johnstown on September 5, 1937. The Program contained this foreword.

A FORWORD (sic)

By

Rev. John R. Thomas, D.D.

Pastor Congregational Church

Ebensburg, PA

Nations have contributed their special respective contributions to the welfare of the human race. These individuals and unique gifts mark the genius of the several races. The composite character of the human family is the sum of these superior qualities. The culture of mankind is the special talent of its several peoples.

Egypt possessed the genius to build; Phoenicia gave the science of language to man; Greece furnished the world its philosophy; the Hebrew race its religion; Rome its law; England and America its democracy.

What is the special endowment of the Welsh people? The “Cymru” possess, we believe, to a marked degree, the capacity for spirituality. The Hebrew exemplifies this genius in the Oriental setting, but the Welshman is the Occidental setting.

This special racial characteristic is found in Welsh Hymnology that is really inspired, and in an accompanying sacred music that fully expresses the written word. Both these vehicles of revealed religion are invariably of the highest standard and level.

These special human gifts mentioned above have motivated the respective national histories of the world and have blessed mankind. We believe the “Gymanfa Ganu” aids to perpetuate this special gift of spiritual inspiration that is so characteristic of the Welsh people. The efforts to maintain this most worthy institution are justified, because the results are the purifying of our motives, the ennobling of human character and the creating of higher patriotism.

The financial statement of the Johnstown Committee indicated total receipts of \$1,766.35 and total expenses of \$1,171.69 for a surplus of \$594.66 with 40% (\$237.86) paid to the National treasurer. Advertising first appeared in the 1937 Program with five pages of ads.

1938

Pittsburgh

The tenth meeting was held in Pittsburgh on September 4, 1938. Thirty-six (36) organization delegates were seated. A motion carried that all past officers be seated as regular delegates. The absence of Union Labels from the 1938 Program was noted and the Pittsburgh delegate assured that the Gwyer Shop was OK. The new balance on hand in the national treasury was \$324.21. A motion carried “That the Welsh people of the Pacific Coast be allowed to hold a National Gymanfa Ganu in 1939, to be known as The Western Division National, and provided the date of the Western does not conflict with that of the regular National –the Sunday before Labor Day.” [There is no evidence that this regional ever took place.]

The **Tenth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Gymanfa Ganu Association**, was held at the Carnegie Music Hall in Pittsburgh on September 4, 1938. The program contained announcements that songbooks were provided on loan and must not be taken away from the hall. Arrangements may be made for purchase through the Boy Scouts in the lobby. It was also pointed out the National Gymanfa Ganu was supported by voluntary contributions. Since there was no charge whatsoever, attendees were encouraged to liberally support the singing festivals. A guarantee of 400 reservations for supper, at 50 cents per diner, was made at the Hotel Schenley.

1939

Buffalo

Caradoc Ellis, who became President following the death of **Geo. Emrys Hopkins** on March 1, 1939 opened the eleventh meeting in Buffalo, on September 3, 1939. The Program listed 75 organization members including eight from Canada. The committee appointed to look into the change of the name of the Association and incorporation recommended against the proposals. The financial report of the Pittsburgh committee reported **income** of \$1,130.03, **expenses** of \$1,189.15 for a deficit of \$59.12. This deficit was later wiped out by life member **John Lloyd** of Braddock. A motion encouraging delegates to urge their respective Welsh societies to hold a gymanfa on the first Sunday after St. David’s Day each year carried. It was resolved to issue a series of bulletins to members of the NGGA

The Program for **the Eleventh Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the St., David's Welsh Society,** in Buffalo on September 3, 1939 was dedicated in memory of **Geo. Emrys Hopkins** who died on March 1, 1939, St. David's Day. He was the first president of the NGGA to die while in office. The Program continued to list the availability in the lobby of Welsh county registration books as a way of renewing friendships.

Commentary

There seemed to be acceptance of the implied authority of the NGGA to authorize regional gymanfaoedd. There was no mention of regionals in the Constitution until the 1958 version but the NGGA seemed to provide the leadership over any gymanfa above the local level. As will be seen on the subject of bulletins, there was no clearly assigned responsibility or schedule for bulletins and they remained an in and out proposition until the 1990's.

CHAPTER 6

The War Years and Recovery (1940-1948)

The Nationals continued while the “shadows of World War II” abounded with Great Britain and her Commonwealth Allies totally engaged. **Churchill’s** immortal words appeared on the back cover of the 1941 Program. The 1941 gymanfa was broadcast on the radio for the first time. The finance committee reported continuation of the task “to raise enough money to enable the NGGA to publish a standard edition of ‘ Favorite Hymns ‘ as well as a smaller book.” The National Executive Committee decided to take no further action on the hymnal until after the duration [of the war]. Because of wartime travel restrictions, a decision was made by the National Executive Committee to suspend further national gymanfaoedd until the end of the war. The 1946 National was celebrated as the “Victory National”. Confidence was apparent. The reported 1948 balance in the national treasury was \$13.01 following the expenditure of \$2,600 for the printing of 10,000 hymnals.

1940

Detroit

The Twelfth meeting in Detroit (1940) opened with 47 organization/societies represented. There was an enrollment of 72 organization and 23 individual members for 1940. **Receipts** of \$504.72 (including the balance on hand of \$268.47) and **expenses** of \$226.39 left a balance of \$278.33 in the national treasury. “The unusual heavy expenses... was [sic] caused by the cancellation of the 1940 Toronto Sponsoring Committee and the acquiring of the Detroit Committee to sponsor the 1940 Gymanfa Ganu.” Following a discussion on the need for a Welsh Journal, “it was resolved to ask the NEC to devise ways of helping to get a successor to “The Druid”.

The 12th National, sponsored by the Detroit Gymanfa Ganu Committee, opened at the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Detroit on September 1, 1940 with the shadows of World War II all around. President **Caradoc Ellis**, in his statement in the Program, expressed gratefulness “that the paths leading toward the setting for this Gymanfa were not strewn with defense barricades, and our hymns should be an expression of our appreciation of the fact that no *Blackout or Curfew* has been necessary to assure our safety...our hymns ...should be sung in a spirit of prayer—prayer for comfort and guidance for those who are struggling to maintain rights held dear by them... be our expression of confidence in the ultimate victory for Justice and Right , which has been the conception of every true Welshman.”

1941

New Castle. PA

A question was raised during the Thirteenth meeting of August 31 in New Castle, Pa. whether “any person not a member of a Welsh society that is an Organization member of the NGGA, is eligible for election to National office?” After some discussion, the matter was dropped since all members of the NEC were members of one or more organization member societies. The finance committee reported that a pledge of \$1,000 had been made towards the cost of publishing a new hymnal. The committee recommended that the life membership fee be reduced from the current \$25 to \$10, that organization member dues be increased from the present \$1.00 to \$5.00, and that individual annual dues be raised from 25 cents to \$1.00. It was decided that the dues of organization and individual members would remain as present and that the dues for life members would be reduced as recommended by the committee. [From \$25 to \$10.]

The Thirteenth Annual National, sponsored by The First Congregational Church, was held at the Scottish Rite Temple in New Castle, Pa., on August 30 and 31, 1941. For the first time, the Program listed the previous venues and Association presidents. This was the second national held for more than one day. **Caradoc Ellis**, in his President’s Address, again addressed the continuing shadows of World War II. The back cover of the Program carried **Winston Churchill’s** Immortal Words...”Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.” The Dean of the American Cathedral in Paris urged a prayer for Britain. The Program carried an advertisement for The British War Relief Society, Inc. For the first reported time, the sessions of the gymanfa were broadcast over Radio Station W.K.S.T., New Castle. The afternoon session opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and *America*. Famous Welsh author and playwright **Jack Jones**, who “crossed the war tossed Atlantic Ocean under conditions of great danger” to represent the British Government, addressed the assemblage. There were responsive readings and prayers during each session. *Meditation* was dedicated to dear ones across the sea. *The Star Spangled Banner* was sung for the first time at the opening of the evening session. There was a Hymn Tune Competition inaugurated through the efforts of **Dr. Griffith J. Jones**, the Gymanfa Director, of Cleveland. Dr. Jones also donated a prize and cup to **John T. Jones**, of Chicago, composer of the tune selected.

1942

Utica

The Fourteenth meeting was held in Utica. The secretary reported a record enrollment of 94 Organization members and 9 Life members. A collection taken at the New Castle Noson Lawen for British War Relief Fund amounted to \$358.63. The finance committee reported continuation of their task “to raise enough money to enable the NGGA to publish a standard edition of “Favorite Hymns” as well as a smaller book.

The Fourteenth National, sponsored by the Utica St. David's Society, was held at the Thomas Proctor High School in Utica on September 6, 1942. For the first time, a report of the National Secretary was included in a session of the Gymanfa Ganu. There were reminders of the war in small entries in the Program encouraging readers to "Throw Your Scrap Into the Fight" and to "Buy War Stamps and Bonds". There were 88 organization members, including 9 from Canada, listed in the Program.

1943-1945

SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF WORLD WAR II

The secretary's report for 1943-1946 indicated that the NEC met at the end of the Utica 1942 Gymanfa and decided to take no further action on the new hymnal for the duration of the war. Travel restrictions made the NEC postpone the next National Gymanfa Ganu until the end of the war. In 1943 the secretary sent out invitations for new members and 11 responded. From May 1944 until September 1, 1945, annual dues receipts remained constant from about 68 organization and 12 individual members. The secretary reported that by September 1, 1946 he had enrolled 60 new life members. There were no meetings in 1943-45 and sitting officers continued to serve. A vote of the membership taken prior to the 1946 Victory National Gymanfa Ganu in Akron resulted in the officers continuing to serve until the 1947 meeting. **W. B. Jones**, the founding national treasurer passed away at his home in Pittsburgh on August 31 1945. He was a prominent leader of Welsh-America and for several years was the publisher of *The Druid*. The president appointed a committee of **James Attwood, Griff Thomas,** and **D.O. Davies** to audit the books of the late treasurer and they were "Audited and found correct". President **Henry T. Jones** appointed Secretary **George Bundy** to act as Treasurer until the next meeting of the Association.

1946

Akron

The secretary reported, during the **Annual meeting of September 1, 1946** that at present here were 74 annual organization and 67 life members. An approved motion combined the offices of secretary and treasurer. The NEC was given authority to add members in different States to its numbers. It was moved, seconded and passed that the annual meeting be held on Saturday evening prior to the day of the Gymanfa. A motion passed "That the Association sponsor a one hour Radio program, and that the National Executive Committee work on this."

The Fifteenth Annual Welsh Gymanfa Ganu (The Victory National), sponsored by the Akron Gymanfa Ganu Committee, was held in Akron on September 1, 1946. President **Henry T. Jones'** address expressed the relief felt by all with the successful end to World War II.

Once again we gather for a National Gymanfa Ganu, the first time we have met since the Gods of War substituted the music of Mars for the melodies of Ancient Wales. When that day that will live in infamy, struck at Pearl Harbor, like all good Americans we put aside many of our peacetime pursuits to engage in activities designed to bring victory to the Allied arms. We did have a Gymanfa in Utica, N.Y. in 1942, but we had not yet realized the war's effect at that time.

Under God's providence we came through the crucible of war and once again victory has crowned our efforts. Today we meet in the hospitable city of Akron, Ohio, in a VICTORY Gymanfa, a Gymanfa that should inspire us all. Today we sing not only because there is music in our souls, we sing in thanksgiving to the Almighty for permitting us to turn back the tide of despotism, for strengthening our arms in the fight for Freedom.

We can imagine a similar Gymanfa back in 1215, when the Welsh barons joined with the Normans to overpower King John on the sands of Runnymede and force from him the Magna Carta. The rights given the common people by the Magna Carta have been revered and guarded ever since by Welshmen, no matter the country he claims as his residence.

No doubt our gallant forebears sang for joy after the Battle of Runnymede. They sang because their rights had been established. We sing today because the flag of freedom they unveiled still is carried high.

Freedom and music have been a part of every Welshman since time began. There were times when his freedom was restricted by tyrants but never his love of music. He sang for the very joy of it, he sang his devotion to God and his love of country. In joy or in sorrow he poured out his emotions on the wings of song. Is it any wonder then that we as Americans, descendants of the men and women of Wales, should carry on this lovely old custom of the Gymanfa Ganu?

This is a happy day for all of us. Our good friends of Akron have done an excellent job in preparing for this Gymanfa. To them goes the credit for staging this remarkable Victory Gymanfa Ganu, a Gymanfa that will be remembered to their credit when today as passed into the realms of history.

As your national president it is a joy to welcome all of you. Some of you have come from afar off, for the magnet of music has drawn you here. Others of us come from neighboring Pennsylvania. All of us are here for the one purpose, that of communing together through melody.

Enjoy this day to the full, my friends, for it is part of your birth-right. Sing with all your souls, sing with thanksgiving and praise, for, but for the grace of God, America today might have been desolated, our homes violated, our children hungry.

We have paid an awful price for the victory, but Freedom was never cheap. On the lonely islands of the Pacific, on the plains of France and Germany we have left our heroic dead. If we ever forget the price they paid, then we are not worthy to enjoy the freedom they guaranteed.

Ahead of us today lies a feast for your souls. Feast and be happy, sing and be glad, for this is a joyous occasion. Thank you and God bless you all.

The Akron Committee reported the following collections: morning-\$192.45, afternoon - \$720.80, and evening -\$532.21

1947

Akron

Secretary-Treasurer **Bundy** reported, during the August 30, 1947 Annual meeting, that the balance in the treasury had grown to \$2,236.13 as of August 17, 1947. The principal reasons for this were the receipts of \$620 in life membership fees, a \$500 donation of **Robert Ellis** toward hymnal costs, and \$720.82, the 40% share of the Akron National of 1946. This was the largest amount realized from a National to date.

President **Henry T. Jones** reported on the Welsh music broadcast on or about March 1, 1947 and it was moved and approved that the president appoint a committee to arrange a similar program for March 1, 1948. For the first time, mention was made of the importance of training young Gymanfa Ganu conductors.

The Committee on Amendments to the By-Laws offered a motion "That the membership dues for Organization members and Individual members be raised from the present \$1 per year to \$5 [dues for Individual memberships at this time were 25 cents] and that the fee for life memberships be raised from the present rate of \$10 or more to \$20". After much discussion, the motion was tabled until the next Annual meeting. The recommendation of the NEC that dues for Individual members be raised from the present 25 cents to \$1.00 was approved.

It was unanimously passed that **George Bundy** be elected secretary-treasurer for two years, with a salary of \$250 per year.

The Sixteenth, sponsored by the Akron Gymanfa Ganu Committee and held on Aug 31, 1947, was called the Sixteenth International Gymanfa Ganu Song Festival and President **Henry T. Jones** called himself the President of the International Gymanfa Ganu Association. Akron was the second city, after Niagara Falls, NY, to host a second consecutive National. The Program paid tribute to Secretary **George Bundy** of Warren, OH.

Born in Abercarn, Monmouthshire, George as he is so intimately called, came to America in 1906. Through the years, he has served in many positions connected with Welsh activities: two years as the president of the old National Cymric Society, president of the Trumble County Welsh day for many years, president of the Warren St. David's Society for two terms, and as president of the Trumble County Eisteddfod. He has served since 1934 as the secretary of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Tribute was paid for his faithful service that personifies the soul of the Gymanfa.

Noson Lawen receipts and expenditures were reported for the first time although a Noson Lawen was evidently held in New Castle in 1941.

1948

Detroit

The **National Executive Committee (NEC) held a meeting in Detroit, on the afternoon of Sept. 4, 1948** during which it heard the plans of **W. A. Francis**, of New Castle, for improvement and enlargement of the Association. It was “the sense of the NEC that a committee be appointed to consider Mr. Francis’ Plans and to study the developing of the NGGA as a permanent organization for the unification of efforts to preserve and develop Welsh Culture”.

Once again a fitting memorial service was held, this time for four departing members and a friend.

The treasurer’s report indicated **receipts** [at this time receipts always included balance on hand at the start of the period] of \$3,745.82, **expenses** of \$3,732.81 for a grand balance on hand of \$13.01. Expenses included \$2,600, apparently for the printing of 10,000 hymnals.

On the question of whether the NGGA should join Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar (Union of Welshmen in Dispersion), it was decided to again postpone action.

The Seventeenth Annual International Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Detroit Gymanfa Ganu Committee, was held in the Cass Technical High School in Detroit on Sunday, Sept. 5, 1948. Once again “International” appeared in the Program as the International Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada. A Sunday morning church service was held in the high school.

The financial report of the Detroit committee showed **receipts** of \$5,027.62, **disbursements** of \$3,495, and a **surplus** of \$1,532 with 40% (\$612.80) going to the national treasury. The continuing increase in dollars associated with the conduct of a national was becoming apparent.

Commentary

The National Gymanfa Ganu Association again proved its importance by maintaining its existence during the suspended war years. It provided the initiative to assure resumption of the Nationals beginning with the 1946 Victory Gymanfa Ganu in Akron. It is unlikely that this could or would have been done by a local organization.

PART II-GROWTH

CHAPTER 7

SALT LAKE CITY TO SALT LAKE CITY (1949-1955)

Recovery from World War II and completion of the first 20 years of its existence led the NGGA to reach for new horizons. The first three-day event was held in Salt Lake City in 1949. Salt Lake City was also celebrating the centennial of the 27 October 1849 arrival of a group from Wales.

NGGA membership was reported as 217 life members. Work started in 1950 on a possible National Welsh Library of America. The suggestion of a \$1 registration fee was rejected because of fears over commercialization of the gymanfa. 3,600 Programs were printed for the 1950 National in Canton.

In 1951, the NGGA was incorporated in the State of Ohio.

There was a reported attendance of 4,500 at the evening session in Milwaukee (1951). The first Western Regional Gymanfa Ganu was held in 1952 in Seattle. Concern was expressed over the financial condition of *Y Drych*.

The Constitution was amended in 1952 to add a woman vice president. A Constitutional amendment in 1953 authorized 9 vice presidents. No action was taken on a suggestion to hold an eisteddfod during the National because it was felt that the competitive nature of the eisteddfod did not harmonize with the spirit of the Gymanfa Ganu.

Broadcasts of parts of sessions occurred in 1949 (CBS), 1950 (for Voice of America) and in 1952 over a local station in Ohio. **E. J. Hughes**, from Caernarvon, became the first visiting conductor from Wales (1953) to conduct the gymanfa sessions. There were suggestions in Philadelphia (1954) to print the words with the music in the hymnals.

The return to Salt Lake City in 1955 was for the first four-day event. Secretary Bundy reported on extensive collections of Welsh titles in libraries across the country. The absence of young people was always a stated concern. Minutes of meetings and these introductory comments were becoming longer indicating increased complexity of activities or lengthier discussions.

1949

Salt Lake City

The meeting in Salt Lake City, on Sept. 3, 1949, opened with 39 delegates qualified and seated. **Secretary Bundy** reported total Life members as 217.

The treasurer reported a significant improvement in the treasury with **receipts** of \$2,478.20 and **expenses** of \$957.64 for a **balance on hand** of \$1,520.56. Amounts due to the treasury included \$984 for sale of hymnals and \$74 for sale of phonetics.

The committee appointed to study the ideas of **W. A. Francis** for developing the NGGA found “that there was not enough interest among members of the Association to carry out Mr. Francis’ ideas and it was agreed that the proposed changes be tabled for the time being”.

There was no bid for the 1950 National and the selection of a venue was left in the hands of National officers.

A Memorial Service, now becoming a tradition at the annual meeting, recognized the loss to the “grim reaper” of three members.

The Eighteenth National, sponsored by the Cambrian Association of Salt Lake City, was held in Salt Lake City on Sept. 3-5, 1949. This was the first National held west of Chicago.

By one of those strange coincidences, so prevalent in Welsh life, **John James**, President of the Cambrian Association of Salt Lake City included in his greetings the fact that 1949 was the Welsh people’s Centennial in Utah. On 27 October 1849, 260 souls reached Salt Lake City, their leader being Captain **Dan Jones**, a native of Flintshire, North Wales, who was returning from a five-year mission in Wales as a representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. James ended his greetings with Cymru Am Byth (Wales Forever).

This was the first three-day festival. There was an informal Friday reception at the home of **Mr. & Mrs. Harold S. Staples**. Tours of Salt Lake City were taken on Saturday and a Noson Lawen was held that evening followed with community singing and an informal Welsh tea. There was a Sunday morning church service. Sessions of the gymanfa were held in the Tabernacle and the evening session was broadcast on CBS from 8:30 to 9:00PM. Hymns sung during the broadcast included *Diadem*, *Penpark*, *Rachie*, *Aberystwth*, and *Cwm Rhondda*. The Tabernacle Choir, under the direction of **J. Spencer Cornwall**, sang selections (including the Hallelujah Chorus) at both sessions. The Cambrian Chorus sang at the church service and during the broadcast.

Monday events included a tour of the Utah Copper Mine in Bingham Canyon, informal community singing and other entertainment and attendance at the 56th Annual Utah Cambrian Day Celebration. There was even bathing in the Great Salt Lake.

Organization life and organization annual members were listed in the program. Individual life and annual members and were listed by state of residence with Pennsylvania leading with 51 life members and Ohio with 49. It was evident that the National Gymanfa Ganu Association was beginning to grow.

The conductor for the Gymanfa Ganu was **William Albert Hughes**, born in Rhosllanerchrugog, North Wales.

He was trained when quite young and directed a choir at age of five years. He organized a choir at 15 and had been directing ever since. He came to Cleveland in 1916 where he taught music in public schools for a number of years. Shortly after arriving in Cleveland, the Cleveland Male Chorus was organized and he was appointed director. The Cleveland Messiah Chorus was formed in 1921 with 65 members and grew to 600 members and he directed since its birth. The Cambrian Male Chorus was organized in 1933 and sang at the Chicago World's Fair of 1933-34. They sang at the National Gymanfaoedd in Cleveland (1934) and in Akron (1946). In 1937 they were engaged to put on a Welsh concert in Carnegie Hall, New York to benefit the Welsh Museum in Cardiff.

President **John James** of the sponsoring Cambrian Society cited the following from the past: **David Lloyd George** "If the warlike nations of Europe had an institution like the one we are assembled at today, they would not be jumping at each others throats as they have for the last hundreds of years."

1950

Canton

The minutes of the Annual meeting at the St. Francis Hotel in Canton, OH, on Sept 2, 1950, continued to be headed with the title National Gymanfa Ganu Association of The United States and Canada although no name change or authorization to use this name has been found. [Common usage was not confirmed until the name change in the 1958 new Constitution.] The Program indicated that the annual meeting was for life members and delegates from organization members.

Past President **Harry T. Jones** conducted a beautiful memorial service for nine members who departed this life since the last meeting in Salt Lake City.

The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$1,478.10 as of August 19, 1950. For the first time, the balance on hand was divided to show \$1,208.89 in the hymnal fund and \$269.21 in the general fund.

The secretary reported that the U.S. Department of State would use the recording of the 1950 National for a Voice of America broadcast.

Authorization was granted for another Western Regional Gymanfa Ganu.

[This was a second hint that a Western Regional was held sometime after 1938. However, no record was found on any regional before that held in Seattle in 1952. Subsequent minutes confirm Seattle was first.]

A motion carried to raise the secretary-treasurer's annual gift to \$500 and, if necessary, part of the money should be taken out of the hymnal fund.

Another motion “That the Association accept bids for the sponsorship of the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu two years in advance of the year the National is to take place” was approved.

A motion “That the sponsoring committees be allowed to charge a \$1.00 registration fee” did not receive a second as “some delegates thought it would commercialize the Annual Gymanfa Ganu.

Mr. Francis of New Castle, spoke in favor of more support of the NGGA from all parts of the U.S. and Canada. He urged the Association to form Chapters in various points in the two countries. This matter was tabled for a later date.

The Ladies Welsh Auxiliary and The Welsh American Society sponsored the Nineteenth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, in Canton, OH, on Sept. 2-3, 1950. President **Allen Thomas**, made reference to “this magnificent hymnal of ours” which must have meant the first hymnal produced by the NGGA.

The Program contained a Memorial to the memory of **George Emrys Hopkins** who died on March 1, 1939 while serving his second term as President of NGGA.

The Sunday morning Worship Service, including a Communion Service, was held in the First Congregational Church. A memorial service was scheduled for the first session with no details provided.

The report of the Canton Committee indicated **receipts** of \$3,794.28, **disbursements** of \$2,347.98 for a **surplus** of \$1,446.30 with 40% (\$574.52) going to the National treasury. The expense item for printing 3,600 programs continued to reflect the growth of the National.

1951

Milwaukee

The minutes of the meeting held in conjunction with the Twentieth National on Sept 1, 1951 indicated 99 members attending.

The Memorial Service was now becoming a tradition. **W. Hammond Williams**, who at the 1950 meeting suggested work on development of a Welsh National Library of America, was one of those remembered in the Memorial Service.

Prof. **Hywel C. Rowland** was appointed to chair a committee to work on the library project and progress was reported. [Rowland was variously identified in minutes as Prof. Rowe and Prof. Wywel C. Rowland. I have used the name associated with his final written report of September 5, 1953] He reported receiving invitations from Brigham Young University and Yale University to make their respective universities the repository for the Welsh National Library of America.

Vice President **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** reported that “The spirit of the Gymanfa Ganu is just as good in Canada as well as the States.”

Mrs. J. M. Lee, a member of the Auditing Committee, reported that “the auditing committee had audited the books of Secretary/Treasurer **George Bundy** and found them in excellent condition, every penny being accounted for.” She was introduced to the 4,500 people at the evening session and invited all to attend the First Western Regional in Seattle [on July 4-5, 1952]. After discussion, it was decided not to use the word National in conjunction with the Western Regional since someday a National in the West may be desired.

Secretary-Treasurer Bundy reported that there are 318 life members, 48 organizational annual members, and 112 annual life members paid to date. [Once again, there seems to be some confusion between these with a mix of organization life and individual life members.] The secretary-treasurer reported receiving about 1,500 letters each year

The NGGA became an incorporated body, under the laws of Ohio, with payment of \$128.04 in legal fees.

20,000 hymnals were printed to date and, up to Aug. 7, 1951, 18,000 were disposed of through sales and as complimentary copies.

The treasurer reported **receipts** of \$1,617.12 into the General Fund, **expenses** of \$1,377.59 [including the \$500 gift authorized to the secretary-treasurer], for a **balance** on hand of \$239.53, For the Hymnal Fund, he reported **receipts** [including a balance on hand of \$1,208.89] of \$2,476.48, **expenses** of \$109.89 for shipping of hymnals, for a **balance** on hand of \$2,366.50.

The subject of *Y Drych* and its financial condition continued to be discussed. At one time, there were 23 periodicals and 9 newspapers serving the Welsh people of the United States and Canada. Only *Y Drych* remains. A suggestion that a Reserve Fund be started [to support *Y Drych*] was postponed pending talks with its editor.

Once again a letter from **T. Elwyn Griffiths**, Secretary of Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar (The Union of Welshmen in Dispersion), inviting the NGGA to become a member at £2 2S per year was tabled.

No action was taken on a suggestion that a badge, bearing the initials L.M., be given to each life member.

The Twentieth Annual National, sponsored by the Wisconsin Gymanfa Ganu Association was held in Milwaukee Sept 1-2, 1951.

The posting of the flag and singing of the U.S. National Anthem opened the afternoon session. **Robert Bodycombe** of Pittsburgh was the soloist at both sessions. The program for this National seemed to evolve into the standard for all National Gymanfaoedd.

[Almost four pages (two columns per page) listing Patrons contributing to the National gives some idea of this important source of financial support.] The financial report from the Milwaukee committee showed **receipts** of \$8,425.84 with **disbursements** of \$5,091.77 for a **surplus** of \$3,334.07 with 40% (\$1,333.63) becoming the largest amount ever remitted to the national treasury. Major

expenses included \$863.12 for 5,000 Programs [16 pages], \$660.40 for the purchase of 2,000 song books and freight charges, \$1,005.50 for refreshments for the Noson Lawen and rooms for National Officers, and \$662.50 for rent of auditorium

1952

Columbus

The Annual Meeting, of August 30, 1952, was held in Columbus. Delegates (98) were seated with no distinction between organization delegates and individual members. **Secretary Bundy** reported 73 new life and 55 new annual members for a total of 391 life and 222 annual members

A report on the first Western Regional held in Seattle indicated over 2,000 in attendance.

Over 900 books, from 77 people, have been received to date and placed in a special section at Brigham Young University.

After determination that the acoustics in the auditorium planned for the 1953 National in Johnstown were faulty and that there were other problems, the designation of Johnstown was withdrawn.

A constructive criticism was offered that introductions at the afternoon and evening sessions should be kept to a minimum since the purpose of the Gymanfa is singing.

A motion "that Pres. **Thomas** appoint a Committee to determine what can be done to help *Y Drych*" was approved.

An amendment to the Constitution authorized an additional vice president, to be filled by a woman, to the Executive Board.

The Twenty-first National, sponsored by the Welsh Singing Society of Columbus, was held in Columbus on August 30-31, 1952.

A \$.75 admission was charged for the Noson Lawen and following reception. The Sunday Worship Service was broadcast over WRFD, Worthington, OH. The sessions followed what was becoming a standard format.

For the first time, the Program carried a list of deceased members although it was not clear if this was a list only of deceased NGGA members.

1953

Rochester

The Annual Meeting in Rochester on Sept. 5, 1953 opened with 98 delegates seated.

Inclement weather forced cancellation of a delightful picnic arranged by **Mr. & Mrs. Frank Gannett** at their beautiful summer home in Bristol. However, the gracious hosts transported the sumptuous luncheon, for 2,000 people, to the Armory where it was enjoyed by all on Saturday afternoon. A notice in the Program stated that “REGISTERED GUESTS ONLY WILL BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND THE PICNIC and that ‘Outsiders’ must be eliminated from the picnic grounds.” [This is one of the first indications that gate-crashers, in the form of non-registered attendees, were becoming a problem. In future years, this would become a financial problem for many venue committees.]

A detailed report on the Welsh National Library of America is in Appendix I.

The NEB accepted a suggestion from the Rochester Sponsoring Committee “That the Annual Memorial Service be move from the Annual Business session to the Sunday Afternoon session or evening.” [The memorial service was another nomad of the Nationals. Over the years, it was held during meetings, the Sunday church service, and even sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu.]

Secretary **Bundy** reported traveling 1,870 miles, selling, packing, and shipping 5,056 hymnals, and preparing and mailing 6,877 letters.

Treasurer **Bundy** reported a balance on hand in the general fund of \$522.35. The hymnal fund savings account showed total balance on hand and **receipts** during the year of \$2,792.89, a **transfer** of \$500 to the hymnal fund checking account, for a **balance** on hand of \$2,292.89. The hymnal fund checking account showed receipts of \$850, expenses of \$602.65 (including the \$500 annual gift to **George Bundy**) for a balance on hand of \$247.35.

A letter from the Edmonton St. David’s Society explained the design of the Royal Draig Goch recently adopted official in England [and Wales]and invited the NGGA to adopt this form of the Red Dragon.

The Twenty-second National, sponsored by the Rochester and Northeastern Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held in the Eastman Theatre, in Rochester, NY, on Sept 5-6, 1953. A registration fee of \$1.00 was charged.

In his Program message, the president of the sponsoring committee, **Lynn C. Watkins**, said, “There will be a minimum of announcements and notices. There will be no speeches. This shall be a ‘Singing Festival’”.

The gymnafa conductor was **E. J. Hughes** of Caernarvon, undisputedly the first visiting conductor from Wales. All previous directors, born in Wales, had become citizens of the United States by the time they conducted.

The Rochester committee gave its share of the surplus (\$962.55) to the Welsh Home at Rocky River, OH.

[Beginning in 1951 in Milwaukee, a tradition seems to have started to have the NGGA President issue the Call to Order at the afternoon session of the National Gymanfa Ganu and for NGGA Secretary-Treasurer **George Bundy** to do the same at the evening session. Opening the afternoon session with the U.S. National Anthem and closing with the Welsh National Anthem and opening the evening session with *America* and closing with the Welsh National Anthem and *God Be With You* also seem to be coming traditional.]

1954

Philadelphia

The Annual Meeting of the Association was held, on Sept. 4, 1954, in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia. It was called to order by President **Henry T. Jones** serving for a second time as president having served previously for the years 1941-49. One hundred and nine (109) organization delegates and life members were seated.

The Rochester Committee recommendation that “All Civic Welcoming and Speeches be eliminated from the Sunday Sessions” was adopted with all future sponsors being so advised.

The NEC met on Sept 3, 1954, with 38 members present, and recommended that the Association purchase membership buttons to be sold to members desiring same. This action was approved. It was suggested that the membership buttons be sold for \$1.00 and that any surplus be donated to the Home for the Aged, Rocky River, OH. A committee was appointed to supervise this project.

[The report from the library committee seemed to indicate that the Brigham Young University Library was the repository for books although I have not found any actions so far officially designating it as such.] Library Chairman **Prof. Hwyl C. Rowland** stated in his report “Let me assure you that this task of a having a WELSH NATIONAL LIBRARY IN AMERICA is not something to be regarded lightly.” During this meeting, reference was made to the letter previously received from **James T. Babb**, Librarian at Yale University, on Welsh books at that library and his suggestion that a representative of the Association visit Yale and talk over the matter of a repository. The library committee had never taken up any official action, naming any university as such a repository or on sending a representative to Yale. All members of the library committee present (four out of seven) recommended “That Secretary **Bundy** be named as representative of the NGGA to call on the librarian at Yale University and examine into and report on its availability as a Repository for Welsh books, and on the state of the Welsh collection there”. The committee members further resolved “That action to recognize officially a university as the Welsh National Library of America be deferred until the report of our representative is received.” The motion, to accept the above resolutions, was amended to read “And that Mr. Bundy be authorized also to examine and investigate the Brigham Young University [library] at Porvo, Utah” and approved.

Secretary **Bundy** advised that the present 80-page hymnal is the limit for a “Stitching job” and that more pages would necessitate a more expensive binding. At this time, there were about 10,000 hymnals on hand, a 2 or 3 years supply. **Prof. W. R. Hughes**, of Scranton, suggested that if and when a new edition is printed, “That the words be printed under the music”. [It would take 21 years for this suggestion to be implemented.]

The Twenty-third Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Philadelphia Gymanfa Ganu Association was held in Convention Hall, Philadelphia on Sept. 3-5, 1954. The Program emphasized the strong Welsh connection, from the earliest colonial times, with Philadelphia and its surroundings. Greetings from Welsh organizations around the world, headed by one from Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar (The Union of Welsh People in Dispersion), included The Cambrian Society of So. Australia; Wellington Welsh Society (Inc.) of NZ; Cymdeithas Gymraeg of Christchurch, NZ; Cymdeithas Gymreig Sidney of Sidney, Australia; The Matabeleland Cambrian Society of Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia, So. Africa; Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank; Newcastle District Cambrian Society, N.S.W. Australia; “Aber Bryn”, Wayville, South Australia; Cymdeithas Gymraeg, Auckland, NZ; The Cambrian Society of Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ; East Rand Cambrian Society, Transvaal, So. Africa; Cambrian Society of Victoria, Australia; Witwatersrand Cambrian Society, Johannesburg, So. Africa; Cymdeithas Cymry Y Penrhyn, Cape Cambrian Society, Cape Town, So. Africa; Trelew, Chubut Argentina; and the Natal Cambrian Society, Durban, So. Africa.

The Program also contained an eight-page article, *Philadelphia and the Age of Hope* by **Margaret Bailey Tinkcom** that summarized **William Penn’s** founding the Pennsylvania colony and the principles that guided him. Welsh immigrants settled in The Welsh Tract, also known as the Welsh Barony, and hoped it would become an independent Welsh government. Welsh were prominent in the growth of Philadelphia, its industry and its world-renowned educational and medical institutions.

There were two Sunday morning church services. **Rev. T. G. Davies**, of Betws Ammanford, Wales, preached at the one in Welsh at the Welsh Presbyterian Church. **Dr. Elfan Rees**, of Geneva, Switzerland, preached at the one in English at the First Presbyterian Church. The Program listed 62 deceased members and a Memorial Service was held during the afternoon session for departed members and friends of the Association.

Major expenses included \$2,220.79 for the Programs and \$2,002.55 for Artists and Clergy.

1955

Salt Lake City

The Annual Meeting was held in Salt Lake City on Sept. 3, 1955. Secretary **Bundy** gave a partial report on his visits to Brigham Young University Library and Yale University Library. There are 1,400 books, programs, and magazine at BYU including 200 duplicates. The outstanding items in “our library here include a complete set of *Druid*, the only complete set known, and one of the only

three copies of the first book printed in Welsh in America *Annerch Y Cymry (Salutation to the Welsh)* by **Edwin Pugh**. At Yale, he examined the only known complete set of **Henry Blackwell's** Collection of Welsh titles (667 books with no duplicates). He also found nearly 400 volumes by or about **Jonathan Edwards**. The total Welsh titles in the Blackwell and Jonathan Edwards' collections alone number more than a thousand. Bundy indicated that Prof. Howland authorized him to look at other libraries. He found nearly one thousand titles in the Genealogical Society of Salt Lake City including *A Cambrian Biography*, published 150 years ago with more than four hundred biographies going back to 300 B.C. The society has 1,105 microfilms of Parish Registers and other subjects from the twelve Welsh counties and Monmouthshire. The greatest find he made to date was in the Newberry Library in Chicago. There are nearly one thousand Welsh titles on Welsh history, poetry, biography, and literature. There are 845 volumes in the **Louis Luciene Bonaparte** Collection in the Newberry Library. Bundy reported purchasing photostatic copies of the Bonaparte Welsh items [probably meant titles] as an addition to our (?) Bibliography. His next search will be at the Congressional Library in Washington.

A motion passed to send a message of thanks to **Arthur [M] Roberts** for his fine work. **Mrs. Hasenpflugh** remarked that Mr. Roberts couldn't live on thanks. Secretary **Bundy** was instructed to write to all members of the NGGA asking them to make a contribution to the "Drych Emergency Fund". A motion "That the secretary invite all Organization members to contribute \$10 to the Drych Reserve Fund to help keep alive our last Welsh-American medium of news" carried.

President **Henry T. Jones** expressed his concern over the absence of young people at National activities.

The secretary reported that during the past year he sent out 7,238 pieces of mail; sold, packed, and shipped 2,441 hymnals, traveled 5,676 miles, and started the compilation of a Bibliography of Welsh Americana.

Vice President Elect **Judge Fred M. Evans** addressed the meeting on the work of "The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorian, London and expressed the wish that the NGGA would start a similar society here. If the plan were adopted, a drive for funds would be made amongst corporations and individuals. [Corporations were first mentioned some 48 years ago. The WNGGA has never really even tried to pursue this obvious source of financial support.]

Mrs. Resina Dudleyke of Marwayne, Alberta who compiled a remarkable collection of valuable letters from Welsh celebrities, pictures, etc. depicting Welsh customs and life through centuries in Wales placed the collection at the disposal of the Association. The Association decided to purchase Mrs. Dudleyke's collection and ordered it sent to Provo [Brigham Young University].

An amendment to the Constitution specified that the president would not be eligible to succeed himself unless one president's term had elapsed since his. Another amendment increased the number of Vice Presidents to 9 plus the Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee, who by virtue of his office, becomes a Vice President for the year his committee is sponsoring the National. The nine Vice Presidents were distributed as follows: Canada for a two year term (2), US West for a one year term

(1), US Mid-West for a one year term (1), US Central for a one year term (2), US East for a one year term (2) and one to be filled by a woman for a one year term.

The Twenty-Fourth Annual (John James Memorial) National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Utah Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held, in Salt Lake City, on September 2-5, 1955. This was the first four-day event. Registration occurred on Sept 1-3 with a registration fee of \$1.00 and the requirement to secure admission badges.

The National was dedicated to the late John James who was co-chairman of the venue committee that sponsored the first National in Salt Lake City in 1949. See App. F.

Following a Welsh service in the First Presbyterian Church, both sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu were held in the Tabernacle.

Special events included a tour of Temple Square, visit to Welfare Square, a special organ recital in the Tabernacle, sight seeing tours, an outing to Saltair Beach at the Great Salt Lake, and a trip to Bingham Canyon, the largest open cut copper mine in the world.

Commentary

As will be seen later, the 1951 incorporation and 1961 Internal Revenue Service recognition of the NGGA as a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization led to a great deal of misunderstanding and misinterpretation in coming years. There were those who thought that incorporation in Ohio limited NGGA operations to Ohio.

Constitutional provisions regarding representation from the local venue committee on the board of trustees and the position of the immediate past president continued to vary depending on memory or lack of memory and changing opinions.

The name of the Association would continue to be of concern to some, especially the use of the term National. I doubt that there was any question that National was considered to include Canada and was acceptable when the name was the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of The United States and Canada. My personal view was, and still is, that the United States, Canada and Wales are all Nations covered by the term National. It will be seen later that serious objections over the name change to Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association concerned the addition of Welsh.

One cannot help feeling that in both instances, support of *Y Drych* and the establishment of the Welsh National Library of America, the Association was overreaching. Both of these ideas were

admirable but, beyond the reach of conservative Welsh. Realism prevailed and action on both subjects was terminated.

The enthusiastic Salt Lake City reception of the 1955 National, the second there following 1949 and a forecast of a return in 1971 raises a question regarding the Welsh-Americans in Utah today. One of the latest membership reports shows only four WNGGA members in Utah where the 1990 census showed 48,070 reporting their Welsh ancestry.

CHAPTER 8

First Visits to Washington, DC and Toronto (1956-1959)

The sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu followed a standard format and sponsoring committees were required to agree to “maintain the dignity and traditions of the Association”.

The project to establish a National Welsh Library of America was dropped as being beyond the Purpose of the Association. A phonetic hymnal *Welsh Hymns for English Singers* became available. Membership pins were available for sale in Cleveland.

A 1958 major rewrite of the Constitution expanded the NGGA Purpose thus breaking the confines that restricted expanding the range of NGGA educational and cultural activities. The Constitution change also defined membership and dues, established the Board of Trustees, and set terms of office for officers and trustees. For the first time, individual members were granted the right to vote. The name of the Association was changed to the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of The United States and Canada.

First indications of discontent appeared with concerns over accomplishing actions through proper channels with full authority, insufficient information on financial status and need for full time compensated secretary.

A 60/40% division of net proceeds from a National Gymanfa Ganu in favor of the national treasury was approved. In this regard, a belief was expressed “that the Gymanfa should be sponsored for its own purposes and not for any profit for a local organization”. The endowment fund was established and a recording secretary appointed while in Toronto in 1959.

1956

Cleveland

The Annual Meeting held in Cleveland on Sept 1, 1956 was the first for which a formal printed agenda, with 23 items listed, was presented.

A letter from **Col. E.G. Thomas** of Salt Lake City read in part, “If 50 or 100 other Welshmen will put \$100.00 each I will do likewise, [there] should be 100 which would give \$10,000 as a Reserve fund to meet the expenses for *Y Drych*.” (Before the Gymanfa was over, **James R. Thomas** of Butte, Montana handed a check for \$100 to the secretary-treasurer.)

Secretary-Treasurer **George Bundy** reported processing 2,658 sold hymnals, addressing 2,890 envelopes, mailing 4,690 letters and bulletins (not including bulletins) [I did not and do not understand the exclusion of bulletins.] and traveling 9,880 miles. He negotiated the microfilming of 39 volumes of *Druid*, checked and secured photostatic copies of “800 Welsh books in Chicago library, and 100 in the Stanford University Library.” [This must have meant titles since Bundy was working on a bibliography.] He typed seven copies of 3,800 names for the Judge **Fred Evans** Plan (*Drych* Emergency Fund).

In his report, Treasurer Bundy listed receipts of \$224 from the sale of membership pins at \$1 each. Significant disbursements included \$271.91 for 404 membership pins (94 more to come).

A report on the Third Western Regional Gymanfa Ganu showed a surplus of \$1060 with \$400 remitted to the national treasury.

The NEB is composed of the 12 elected officers and the immediate past president [of the NGGA] and current President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America. During the past year, the committee authorized the purchase of a set of nine 12 inch records of a service held in London on Dec. 9, 1954 to commemorate the 350th Anniversary the death of **Bishop William Morgan** who translated the Bible into Welsh. The committee also approved the collection of a \$1 registration fee by the Cleveland committee since they are giving its share of the surplus to the Welsh Home at Rocky River, OH.

Rev. **Herbert Lewis Jones**, of Oradell, NJ, briefed the NEB at its evening meeting of Aug 31, 1956, on a project to honor the great Cymric poet **Goronwy Owen** at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, VA. He asked that the Association help make the Goronwy Owen Day in 1957 a success. The president appointed a committee with chairman **Prof. John Hughes** and members **Thomas Jones, David Evans, Mrs. Sarah Ann Davies, John R. Jones, Trevor Lloyd Roberts and Mrs. Jane Musgrove** to work on this project.

The president appointed a committee to "define clearly the present financial needs of the NGGA in order to focus the attention of the members and friends of the Association on the immediate problem as outlined under the following heads--The NGGA Reserve Fund, The "Drych" as an indispensable instrument of the continuing functioning of the NGGA, and The Library." **James R. Thomas**, Butte, MT, chaired the committee with members **Henry T. Jones**, New Castle; **John R. Roberts**, Cleveland; **E. I. Evans**, Columbus and **Dr. M. D. Thomas**, Salt Lake City.

A suggestion that the sponsoring committees include a Communion in the Sunday Morning Church Service was to be passed on to all sponsoring committees.

The **Judge Evans** [*Y Drych* Emergency Fund] plan was laid on the table.

Before considering a new venue selection, **Secretary Bundy** explained that a Sponsoring Committee "agrees beforehand to maintain the dignity and traditions of the Association, and by its own initiative to meet the expense of its maintenance for that year, by the sale of the Gymanfa Ganu Hymn Books, admissions, collections and donations, and to co-ordinate fully with the Association." The sponsoring committee will note "That civic welcoming and speeches are eliminated from the Sunday sessions, and that the music used at the Sunday sessions shall be sacred in character and preferably in Welsh and English. A copy of the Program for the Sunday sessions shall be submitted to the NEB before same is printed."

A motion was approved "That Secretary **George Bundy**, immediately start training a successor to take over his many duties, in case of an emergency

The Twenty-Fifth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Welsh Society and The Women's Welsh Clubs of Cleveland, was held on Aug. 31, Sept 1, 2, 1956. The sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu followed what was becoming a standard format. As evidence of growth of the NGGA, 5 ½ pages of the Program listed life and annual members.

The financial statement of the Cleveland Committee reported **receipts** of \$5,645. 54, **expenses** of \$2,712.99 for a **surplus** of \$2,932.55 with 40% or \$1,173.01 going to the National treasury. The Cleveland Committee gave its surplus to the four Women's Welsh Clubs: Cleveland, East Cleveland, West Cleveland, and Lakewood.

1957

Washington

The Annual Meeting, of August 31, 1957, was held in the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC.

A letter from the celebrated Morriston Male Voice Choir stated that the choir would like to make a three week tour of the United States and Canada around the end of August or first three weeks of Sept. 1958.

Twenty-four departed members and friends, including **David J. Lewis**, Youngstown, OH the first NGGA Secretary, were remembered, as is the custom with the singing of *Babel* at one of the sessions.

A typewritten copy, of the names and addresses of those who registered for the 1956 National in Cleveland, was provided the secretary.

During the 1956 meeting the secretary-treasurer was instructed to immediately start training a successor who could take over in case of an emergency. He was authorized to divide the office into four divisions and four individuals were approved by the NEB to become proviso officers ready to take the place of the incumbent.

The NEB and the library committee, after months of correspondence and a three hour session last night, passed a motion by a vote of 10 to 3 to recommend "to the 1957 Annual meeting of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association that all plans for the establishment of a Welsh National Library of America under the auspices or supervision of this Association be canceled and withdrawn, for the reason that such activity and responsibility is outside the purpose expressed in its Constitution and Articles of Incorporation." After lengthy discussion, the recommendation of the NEB was moved and carried by a good majority and later made unanimous.

The Fourth Western Regional Gymanfa Ganu will be held in Vancouver on July 4-7, 1958, the Centennial Year in Vancouver.

An amendment to the Constitution provided for the President of the sponsoring committee to be a National Vice President for the year following the National. This was done to take advantage of his/her experience.

The Twenty-Sixth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the St. David's Welsh-American Society, the Women's Welsh Club, and the Gwalia Club all of Washington, DC was held on Aug. 30-31 and Sept 1, 1957.

The Program recognized the 200th anniversary of the embarkation of the great Welsh poet, **Goronwy Owen** to America. The anniversary is being celebrated both at the Jamestown Festival and with the visit of the National Eisteddfod of Wales to the poet's beloved native site of Anglesey (MON, MAM CYMRU—Mona, Mother of Wales) The words of one hymn definitely attributed to him were sung to the music of *Dymuniad*.

On Saturday afternoon, the attendees were treated to a Garden Tea Party and Informal Program at Tregaron, the home of Honorary President, Honorable **Joseph E. Davies**, Ap Rahel o'fon.

There was a special session of the Gymanfa Ganu at the United States Central Capitol Steps at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. The conductor was **William D. Jones**, baritone soloist and concert moderator of the U. S. Marine [Corps] Band.

Welsh Hymns For English Singers, the first phonetic version, was available at the Registration Desk or through **George Bundy** for the price of 50 cents.

1958

Milwaukee

The Annual meeting, of August 30, 1958, was held in Milwaukee.

Receipt of letters from the Mayors of Rochester and New York City inviting the NGGA to hold one of the "Cymanfa Canu" in their cities led to a sort of abrupt reply "that only members of the Association were eligible to extend such an invitation".

A motion passed to send greetings to H.M. the Queen, to be conveyed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

President **John G. Roberts** said that a suitable memorial would be established for departed members. [I could not find that anything was ever done on this.]

In spite of the small attendance, there was still a quorum present to proceed with business. The first printing of 1,000 *Welsh Hymns for English Singers*, prepared by Judge Jenkins, sold out and another 1,000 were being printed.

The president hoped that with the re-organization of the NGGA [The 1958 Constitution] more could be accomplished through proper channels and with full authority so that the organization could move forward and accomplish more. [Was this a first indication of discontent?]

George Bundy reported that **Elwyn Jenkins**, son of Judge Jenkins, had done everything to file a copyright on the book of phonetics and he was awaiting official action that might take some time.

Bundy reported that the NEB recommended to the General Meeting that two committees be set up: press and publicity and radio and television to arouse wider interest in the Gymanfa Ganu among all our people and especially our younger people.

The Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws presented a new constitution that, after discussion, was approved as recommended. Reports continued that the situation with *Y Drych* was critical. During the discussion of the proposed new Constitution, it was stated that any matter of *Y Drych* and the library had been omitted from the Constitution because the NGGA had no right to include it. Major changes included provisions on:

Changing the name of the Association to the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of The United States and Canada.

Setting membership eligibility as “Any person of Welsh lineage, or any person or organization in full sympathy with the stated Purpose of the Association.” Voting privileges were extended to individual members.

Establishing the Board of Trustees consisting of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and 17 members (3-West, 5-Canada and 9 East) with three-year terms and provided for staggered elections to distribute terms. [No where in any minutes was I ever to discover the rationale, if there was one, for the distribution of the trustees.]

Prescribing the president’s term and non-succession and providing that if president is from U.S. vice president will be from Canada and vice versa. The secretary and treasurer may be same person and the board of trustees shall nominate and elect officers.

Authorizing as ex officio vice presidents the president of the Women’s Welsh Clubs and a representative of the sponsoring committee during its year of sponsorship.

Designating the executive committee to be made up of the officers.

Establishing duties for officers and quorums. Dues were set at \$2 for individual and organizational annual, \$10 or more for individual or organizational life membership, and \$25 or more for any organization to become a charter member, all payable in advance.

Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas suggested that 60% of the profit from a national should go to the NGGA and 40% to the sponsoring committee. **Dr. Douglas Jones** and **Professor John Hughes** endorsed this suggestion. An amendment to this motion to refer it to a committee and an amendment to the amendment that the proceeds should be split 50/50 were both defeated. The motion on the 60/40 division passed 23 votes to 11.

Concerns were expressed about the lack of information among members on the financial status. It was suggested that when considering the raising of the dues for a charter member to \$25 consideration should be given to having a full-time secretary, adequately compensated for the work he has to do.

A suggestion was made that some recognition should be made of the founder members and Pres. **John G. Roberts** said that a committee would be appointed to this end. [This is another example of the lack of an organized follow-up to carry out decisions and promised actions. I could not find any evidence that anything was done on this subject.]

During the discussion on the split of surplus or net proceeds, **George Bundy** reminded delegates that this change to 60/40 would also apply to sponsors of the Western Regional Gymanfa, that people out there are already not happy paying the 40% and think it should be 20% while others think the whole surplus should be retained to build up the gymanfa in the West. Toronto representatives (**Douglas Jones** and **Rev. J. Humpreys Jones**) were happy with the new split and believed that the Gymanfa should be sponsored for its own purposes and not for any profit for a local organization.

[It is interesting to note that for the election of trustees following approval of the Constitution, the minutes incorrectly stated “nominations for the 15 members of the Board of Trustees” whereas the Constitution authorized 17. Abbreviated Minutes of the August 30, 1958 meetings stated that “thirty nominations were voted on, with the result as shown on the letterhead on which the Agenda for this meeting is printed”. Could the results of the election have been preordained?]

The Twenty-Seventh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Wisconsin Association Gymanfa Ganu, was held, on August 29-31, 1958, in Milwaukee.

Entertainment on Saturday included a tour to Wales, WI and the Welsh Hills farming areas of Waukesha County; a boat tour around Milwaukee Bay, a tea party at the Milwaukee County War Memorial Building, and a Nosen [sic] in the Schroeder Hotel’s Crystal Ballroom. The registration fee was \$1.00. Church services followed a now somewhat standard format. This was the last Program to list multiple vice presidents.

1959

Toronto

The Annual Meeting of Sept. 5, 1959 was held in Toronto. A resolution “That an Endowment Fund be created” was approved.

Election of trustees to implement staggering of terms was accomplished. (App. C) A motion carried appointing a recording secretary for the Association.

The 28th National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held, on Sept. 4-6, 1959, in Toronto. A Comedy of Four Acts, *Cobler's Wax*, was presented on Friday, Sept. 4 in the Concert Hall of the Royal York Hotel. The Program also stated that admission to the Noson Lawen would be by registration badge only and that R.C.A. Victor, Ltd. was producing recordings of the 1959 National Gymanfa Ganu. These were "firsts" for the NGGA.

Another first was the singing of National Anthems: *God Save the Queen*, *O Canada*, and *The Star Spangled Banner*.

Although both sessions followed what was becoming a standard format, there seemed to be more introductions: of the National Officers who called the sessions to order, of the President of the sessions, of the Chairman of the sessions, and of the Conductor **Anne Davies Thomas**.

The work of **George Bundy** was recognized in the Program.

George Bundy of Warren, Ohio, born in Abercarne, Monmouthshire, arrived in Ohio in 1906. He was a co-founder and president for 14 years of the Warren Eisteddfod and president of the last National Eisteddfod in America. He has been secretary-treasurer of the NGGA for 25 years. Last year he sold, packed and shipped 2,595 Hymnals and 878 copies of "Phonetics", dispatched 6,609 pieces of mail and traveled 7,568 miles.

The Program contained some interesting information in an article *The Welsh in Canada* by **Ron Evans** and reprinted from *The Toronto Telegram*. Since **Thomas Button** sailed into Hudson Bay in 1610, about 90,000 Welshmen have followed him to Canada. A paragraph headed *Some Passerby* listed about 14,000 of Welsh birth in Toronto including some, according to **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** of Dewi Sant Church, who claimed Welsh blood because they 'once cycled through Cardiff.' **David Thompson**, his father's name was Ap-Thomas, was probably the most renowned Welshman in Canada. Another paragraph, *Comes Alive*, read "In Canada the Welsh boast of the late **Most Reverend Derwyn Trevor Owen**, Archbishop of Toronto and Primate of All Canada in the Anglican Church and the late **Robert Harris**, for many years the dean of all Canadian painters, and many others."

For the first time, 60% of the net profit or \$4,048.31 Canadian was distributed to the NGGA.

Commentary

Concerns expressed following adoption of the new 1958 Constitution may have been the start of discontent that broke out during the 1970's. The 1958 Constitution clearly established that membership in the NGGA was not restricted to those with Welsh ancestry and that the board of trustees elects the Association's officers. Both of these provisions were to become controversial at different times in the future.

Growth was evident in Toronto (1959) with the report of over 3,000 present and over \$4,000 Canadian turned in to the national treasury. At that time, the exchange rate favored Canadians so this was the largest amount to date.

CHAPTER 9

The West Coast With Return Visits In Between (1960-1966)

The National Gymanfa Ganu spread to the West Coast in 1960 and 1966 with visits to San Francisco and Los Angeles respectively.

With the establishment of the Board of Trustees (BOT), its 1960 first meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting (AGM) became the standard practice. An additional meeting of the BOT started in 1962 following the AGM. From time to time, additional BOT meetings were held to address specific problems.

Additional regionals led to discussions on the pros and cons of regionals, their effect on the Nationals and the availability of sufficient local gymanfaoedd to eliminate their need. These discussions forecasted the end of regional gymanfaoedd.

There were suggestions that the NGGA should avoid commercialism and that the national Board of Trustees should have more power than the sponsoring local committee.

The USA Internal Revenue Service, in 1961, recognized the NGGA as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for which contributions from US taxpayers were deductible. [This always seemed to be a problem for Canadian members even though they were in the minority. There were some who thought that the non-profit status precluded commercial operations and resulting profits not knowing that this was permitted as long as the proceeds were used in support of the Purpose of the organization.]

Disagreements became apparent regarding the approval process for Constitutional amendments, attendance of assistants at board meetings and “until certain internal matters in the NGGA had been crystallised .” These led to a comment from a trustee for “all to bear in mind the purposes of the NGGA, to avoid any efforts towards personal aggrandisement and any questioning the motives of others.”

The NGGA entered the modern machine age with the purchase of a copying machine.

The impact of life membership on the treasury was apparent with the thought that life members should be encouraged to donate again. The expressed hope, never to be realized, was that the endowment fund would grow so that its income would make the NGGA independent of the local sponsoring committees.

The 1964 first directory of officers and trustees listed publicity, nominating, finance, membership, music and endowment committees. [The fact that a membership committee was in existence in 1964 and appointment of committees was authorized in the 1978 Constitution brings into question the need for the long and involved process of authorizing a membership committee in the 1990 Constitution.]

A master copy of the 200-page document of Welsh titles, compiled by **George Bundy**, was authorized.

Rooms at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia in 1964 were \$8 for a single and \$13 for a double.

Mrs. Trefor[Angharad] Lloyd Roberts, of Vancouver, BC, became the first woman president of the NGGA.

Financial concerns were more evident in 1965 with consideration of an increased registration fee, strict enforcement of the registration process [there were only 1,043 registrations in Philadelphia with 3,500 in attendance], renewal of life membership fees, greater control over sponsoring committees, and special collections during the Noson Lawen and evening sessions. [The non-profit bug-a-boo popped up again with some thinking that admittance could not be denied to non-registrants because of the non-profit status.]

1960

San Francisco

The First Meeting of the NGGA Board of Trustees was held Sept. 3, 1960 in San Francisco.

After much discussion about the pros and cons on regional gymanfaoedd and their positive and negative effect on nationals, it was voted to approve a 1962 regional in Edmonton.

A current regulation, not a part of the constitution, prohibiting any advertising prior to one year before the date of a national or regional was changed by vote to permit publicity concerning a National or regional to be full and free as soon as an invitation was accepted.

The Annual General Meeting of the NGGA was held on Sept. 3. 1960 in San Francisco

Douglas Jones reported that attendance at the National in Toronto had been in region of 3,000. Over \$4,000 Canadian had been given to the national treasury [the largest amount to date]. The majority of the 40% retained by the Toronto Committee had been turned over to the Dewi Sant Welsh Church in Toronto.

Sec/Treas **George Bundy** reported traveling more than 5,000 miles and mailing out more than 8,000 pieces. **John G. Roberts** expressed hope that once the endowment fund was satisfactorily established it would be sufficient to pay the expenses of a National.

Approval of the NGGA becoming a member of Association for Welsh People in Dispersion (Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar) was finally granted.

An amendment to the Constitution provided for the addition of the Immediate Retiring President to the BOT. [Movement once again.]

Mrs. Robert J. Williams continued to suggest the discontinuance of the regional gymanfaoedd believing there were sufficient local gymanfaoedd to eliminate the necessity for a regional.

The 29th National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Northern California Cambrian Association, was held on, Sept 1-4, 1960, in San Francisco. This was the first scheduled four-day.

Activities included a welcoming tea and short program on Thursday, Sept 1, at the St. David's Presbyterian Church; a Noson Lawen on Friday, Sept 2; and a banquet followed by a Deluxe Concert on Saturday, Sept 3. Tours were also offered. A Sunday, Sept 4 Church service at the Central Seven [th] Day Adventist Church was followed with afternoon and evening sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu at the First Congregational Church. This was the beginning of what became a standard format for a four-day event: Thursday Noson Lawen, Friday banquet, Saturday concert and Sunday church service and sessions.

The Program listed **George Bundy** as secretary/treasurer with **Jack Meadows, Menna Williams, Gwen Williams, and Mary Samuel**, apparently his assistants. **Eluned Thomas** was listed as the recording secretary.

The Program listed Honorary President Mr. **Edgar Phillips** (Trefin) Archdderwydd Cymru (Archdruid of Wales), and Vice Presidents **Enid Jones Beaupre** (NY); Alderman **Gwynfor Evans**, President Plaid Cymru; **Albert Foulkes**, Program Chairman, Bangor Welsh Day, PA; **Judge David Jenkins** (OH); **Arthur M. Roberts** (NY); **Emrys Roberts**, Vice President, International Eisteddfod, Llangollen, Wales; **W. S. Gwynn Williams**. O.B.E., M.A., F.R.S.A., Hon. F.T.S.C. Music Director, Llangollen International Eisteddfod-Wales.

In spite of past declarations, there seemed to be more introductions. There were introductions of the national president who called the afternoon session to order, of presidents of the session, chairman of the session, of the conductor, and greetings from the Pastor of First Congregational Church and the Mayor of San Francisco.

The evening session included IN MEMORIAM for departed friends and members and the American Beauty Roses on the rostrum were in their memory.

The Program also included IN MEMORIAM for Departed Past National Presidents Hon. **Edward Blythin, E. B. Williams, Dr. John H. Evans, George Hopkins, and Allen Thomas** and 17 other departed members.

The Program also included information that 1960 was the Centennial year of the Welsh National Anthem *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau* composed in 1860 by father and son **Evan and James James**. Evan wrote the words.

Horace Breese Powell was recognized as the new editor of *Y Drych* and an appreciation was expressed to **Arthur M. Roberts** for his "past fifteen years — services representing devoted effort, often under difficult conditions, which have been an essential contribution to the National Gymanfa Ganu Association and Welsh unity in America."

1961

Chicago

The National Executive Committee held a meeting in Niagara Falls on April 22, 1961. For the first time, the minutes indicated that **Miss Menna Williams** was the NGGA treasurer.

Concern over the availability of hotel accommodations and other facilities in Utica led the president, vice-president, and secretary to contact the Waldorf Astoria and Park-Sheraton in New York City about the possibility of holding the 1962 National there. However, the president visited Utica early in April and determined that both hotel accommodations and facilities would be suitable for the 1962 National. Concern was expressed during this meeting that it appeared possible for an organization not holding a life membership in the Association to hold a National and this was not in accordance with the Constitution. The secretary was asked to check on any future invitation to assure that it came from a life member.

It was again suggested that commercialism of the NGGA should be avoided and that invitations be accepted only from a Welsh organization and not from hotels

A Finance Committee meeting was held on Sept. 1, 1961 in Chicago. The auditor recommended that the finances be carefully studied since the Association's income had dropped and its expenses increased during the past year and a loss had been shown. The finance committee report (App. L) was approved at the annual general meeting.

The Board of Trustees held its meeting on Sept 1, 1961 in Chicago. Much discussion ensued on the suggestion that more power should rest with the national executive body than with any local committee and the effect this would have on the incentive, enthusiasm, and local color provided by the local committee. It was felt that By-Law #3, giving the trustees full authority over any sponsoring committee, had been overlooked and not properly exercised. A motion carried that detailed directives for guidance of all sponsoring committees should be prepared by the NEC, submitted to the trustees for approval, and given to each sponsoring committee starting with Utica.

The secretary reported on correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service on tax exemption of the NGGA [non-profit 501 (c) (3) status] received in IRS letter, dated May 22, 1961. It was felt that the Association should continue to levy a \$1.00 registration fee, as this was a way of identifying our own members.

It was agreed that the Welsh National Anthem should be included in the program of the National and that the sponsoring committee should decide what other anthems should be sung.

The motion passed during the Sept 3, 1960 allowing immediate advertising of a National after approval of venue invitation was rescinded as being out of order. It should have been referred to the annual meeting.

The chairman of the endowment committee was authorized to outline the object of the endowment. Emphasis was to be placed on interesting Welsh youth in the gymanfa, to educate them in music generally, and, if possible, to provide scholarships. Only income from the endowment would be used.

The Annual General Meeting of the NGGA was held on Sept. 2, 1961 in Chicago.

George Bundy was authorized to continue his work on compiling a list of Welsh books in various libraries and to spend Association funds in this regard.

The Trustees appointed Miss **Menna Williams** Treasurer in January 1961.

The Chairman of the Special Events Committee, Dr. **M. D. Thomas**, while acknowledging that the prime purpose of the NGGA was the National Gymanfa Ganu, believed that special events, such as the concert of the previous evening by the Aberystwyth Madrigal Singers, should be added to foster Welsh fellowship and culture.

An amendment to the Constitution required proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-laws to be submitted to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees for consideration and approval. See App. A for the rejected amendments.

The 30th Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Chicago Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held in Chicago on Sept 1-3, 1961. The Program listing of the Chicago Committee showed a president, vice president/secretary, treasurer, co-treasurer, assistant secretary, eleven honorary vice-presidents, a seven person executive committee, ten committee chairmen, and forty-two members of the general committee. This certainly was a good indication of the increasing complexity of arranging a National.

Admission to the Noson Lawen and sessions of the gymanfa was by Registration Badges ONLY. There was a luncheon and program "Around the World in Hats" to which gentlemen were invited.

The Program listed the availability of Welsh Hymns for English Singers at \$.50, The Gymanfa Song Book at \$.50 and membership pins for Women and Men at \$1.00. Secretary **George Bundy** would give prices on quantity orders for the Gymanfa Song Book.

1962

Utica

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Friday, 31 Aug. 1962 in Utica. The recent death of Trustee **Lynn Watkins** was recognized.

President **Douglas Jones** reported that a resolution of the NEC barred the assistant secretaries, treasurer and recording secretary from the Board of Trustees' meeting in Utica. He asked if the Trustees wanted such assistants to attend the meeting. By secret ballot, Recording Secretary **Eluned Thomas** was authorized to attend. A motion carried to have the assistants attend. [I found no explanation for this strange occurrence that defied the logic of assistants and the recording secretary. I could not help feeling a sense of discord underlying the meetings.]

The president reported that over 2,000 were expected to attend in Utica. Some discussion continued on the \$1.00 registration fee and its impact [denying admittance to non-payers] on the non-profit status of NGGA.

A brochure on the NGGA Endowment Fund was reported deferred "until certain internal matters in the NGGA had been crystallised." There was \$40 in the endowment fund at present.

At another meeting Saturday afternoon President **Douglas C. Jones** stated that proposed amendments would not be discussed by the Trustees since "it was not the prerogative of the Trustees to act on them. **Judge Jenkins** "believed that item #2 of Article II required that the Board of Trustees discuss them. [It did. See App. A for details.]

The president reported that attendance at the Western Regional in Seattle had been disappointing and a financial loss had been suffered.

Rejected proposed amendments included: adding the immediate past president to NEC, electing assistants, abolishing the office of recording secretary, allowing the president to succeed himself, deletion of provision for election of officers by the board of trustees [proposed by Ontario Gymanfa Gymanfa Association], and giving complete responsibility for a National to the NGGA.

[This was the start of problems that plagued the NGGA for years. The recurring question of what to do with the immediate past president popped up again and again. The question of who elected officers, the board of trustees or the members, was to be a regular source of irritation.]

Another meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 9a.m. Saturday, Sept 1, 1962. There was a discussion of page three of the finance committee report providing for the NGGA paying the legitimate expenses of the national president and other officers whilst also scrutinizing their necessity. **Dr. Douglas C. Jones** 'spoke feelingly on the subject, wishing this recommendation to remain in the report as it had a bearing on his actions while President.' **Dr. John Hughes** 'wished that no reflection be cast on anyone's integrity.'

The Annual General Meeting of Sept 1, 1962 was held in Utica with seventy-six people in attendance. Loss at the Western Regional in Seattle was approximately \$750.

NGGA property assets include 1,700 hymnals, 386 phonetic books, filing cabinets and the only available complete microfilmed set of *Druid*. Five printing runs of the hymnal had cost more than \$10,000. Secretary **George Bundy** recommended that the present hymnal be used for another few

years since 50,000 were in circulation. A motion carried that another printing run of the present hymnal [with its current format and contents] be made.

The finance report, amended to remove “Fee to Soloists” to avoid concert atmosphere, was accepted. There was a suggested that amateur soloists should be used since the gymanfa was solely a worship service.

Ben Haddock described how the Baptist Church in Swansea, MA was formed by the emigration of the entire congregation from Swansea, Wales and suggested that the NGGA erect a tablet there to commemorate the 300th Anniversary in 1963.

Congratulations were expressed to **John Hughson Jones** on being awarded the M.B.E. [Member British Empire] and actor **Emlyn Williams** for being awarded the Hopkins Medal by the St. David’s Society of the State of New York.

Another meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 3:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 1, 1962 in Utica. A request from the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America for a share of the proceeds of the National Gymanfa was rejected because the Constitution did not permit such an action.

Ben Haddock proposal to place a tablet in Swansea, MA led to a suggestion that he might want to form a committee to seek private donations.

Evan Watkins asked “all to bear in mind the purposes of the NGGA, to avoid any efforts towards personal aggrandisement and any questioning of the motives of others”.

The 31st National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Utica Welsh-American Day Committee, was held in Utica on 30-31 Aug., 1-2 Sept. 1962.

There were 14 pages of advertising in the Program carrying 68 ads including ads from the Republicans and the Democrats. The standard format for the gymanfa sessions was followed.

The financial report of the Utica committee indicated **receipts** of \$12,429.04, **disbursements** of \$8,380.83 for gross profit of \$4,048.21 with 60% (\$2,428.92) going to the national treasury.

Detroit

1963

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 2:30 p.m. Friday, Aug 30, 1963 in Detroit. Chairman of the Membership Committee stressed that a member was not entitled to a badge free of charge.

Of five proposed amendments to the Constitution only one concerning earlier acceptance of a venue invitation was approved for presentation during the annual meeting.

Authority to purchase a copier machine for the secretary, at a cost not to exceed \$200, was granted.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, August 31, 1963 in Detroit. There were 116 in attendance, some not members who promised not to vote. The financial report as of 31 July 1963 indicated a balance on hand of \$4,853.71 which when combined with collectible accounts and the value of publications on hand of \$3,581.15 brought the NGGA net worth to \$8,434.96.

Ben Haddock arranged for a tablet to be placed at the Baptist Church in Swansea, MA. on Oct. 11, 1963.

The secretary was authorized to purchase two copies, one in English and one in Welsh, of the Welsh Dictionary of National Biography published by the Cymmrodorion Society of London.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, August 31, 1963 in Detroit.

Significant recommendations of the membership committee included seating of its chairman with the credentials committee to collect dues at the door, a membership card should be enclosed with the mailings of the sponsoring committee and that life members, both individual and organization, be encouraged to donate to the NGGA again.

A suggestion that different color registration cards be used in the future to identify life, annual members and non-members of the Association was referred to the publicity committee. There were more suggestions on actions to gain and maintain interest of young in the gymanfa.

A committee was formed to look into the legal aspects of the NGGA becoming a member of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion London. If found legal, a motion carried for the NGGA to become a member.

The 32nd Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Detroit 1963 Gymanfa Ganu Committee was held Aug. 30-Sept 1, 1963 in Detroit. A 7:30 p.m. Welcome Tea showed movies on "Travel In Wales."

Another Trustees meeting was held at 9 a.m., Monday, Sept 2, 1963 in Detroit. **John G. Roberts** spoke on the endowment fund and asked permission to contact every Gymanfa Ganu Association in the United States and Canada to ask them to put on a special gymanfa during the coming year or arrange a special collection to benefit the endowment fund. A brochure will state that only the income from the endowment fund will be disbursed and always with the approval of the Board of Trustees. He felt that eventually such income would be sufficient to make the NGGA independent of sponsoring organizations. [This was always a dream never to be realized.]

A suggestion was made that the endowment committee should study changing the distribution of National profits from 60% to the national treasury and 40% to the sponsoring organization to 40% to the sponsoring organization, 40% to the NGGA General Fund and 20% to the NGGA endowment fund. A determination should be made if contributions from Canadians could be subject to Canadian tax exemption.

The secretary was authorized to procure suitable American, Canadian, and Welsh flags for display during the Nationals.

1964

Philadelphia

The 1964 NGGA Bulletin, dated June 19, 1964, [the first I located] reported on the following:

The Bellevue Stratford will be the Headquarters Hotel for Philadelphia 1964 with rooms at \$8-single and \$13-double. Parking was \$2 for the time of the gymanfa with no charges for in or out. [Nostalgia for the good old days.]

The appointment of **Lewis Edwards**, of Toronto, to head a Youth Events Committee. [This proves that there is little new in organizations of this type. What goes around comes around. Things just circle about being accepted or rejected over time.] Action was taken towards maintaining the interest of younger people.

The tax exempt status of the NGGA making donor contributions deductible as provided in Section 179 of the Code.

Executive Secretary **George Bundy's** special report to the board of trustees and NEC, dated 22 June 1964, covered the following items:

The results of a ballot suggesting the combining of the secretary's and treasurer's duties in case of an emergency with twenty in favor and one opposed.

Planning visits to Detroit for the 1963 National scheduled there.

Committees, appointed for the period Sept. 1962-Aug. 1964, on the first listing found, included: publicity, nominating, finance, membership, music, and endowment. A special committee was also appointed to "study training of conductors to lead Gymanfaoedd Ganu."

Calling to the attention of the nominating committee that the background of nominees for trustees should be set forth in writing when they are nominated.

The NEC discussed the financial problems with Y Drych and that there was a set of circumstances that might well "kill off" both papers—a bad result for all. [I haven't been able to identify both

newspapers. *Druid* went of existence in 1937 and *Ninnau* did not arrive on the scene until 1975.
]

A discussion of the disposition of the Welsh books at Brigham Young and Yale Universities with no further progress.

[While sections of the above report, for which a page and date seems missing, are quoted as being from a Feb 8-9, 1962 meeting in Detroit, they are quoted here for their general interest.]

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Friday, Sept 4, 1964 in Philadelphia. A request was received from the Welsh Society of Tasmania for the donation of 200 hymnals for a planned gymanfa. Trustees were reluctant to set precedence. However, in view of isolated location of Tasmania, a motion passed to send 50 copies with suggestion that, if possible, a further quantity should be purchased.

A question was raised on defective binding or stapling of hymnals. Cost for spiral binding of approximately 7,000 on hand would be \$560 or \$.08 per book. A motion was approved to spirally bind hymnals and sell them at \$.60 rather than \$.50. The secretary was asked to investigate combining the hymnal and phonetic books into one spirally bound book and report to the NEC.

Col. E. G. Thomas reported on his visit to the Brigham Young University (BYU) Library, which he found most impressive. He asked that BYU be given assurance that they were the official depository [repository] for Welsh books in the United States. All were reminded that in 1957 it was determined that the NGGA Constitution did not cover actions such as this. A suggestion was made that BYU Library be given NGGA blessing and this be transmitted to the BYU Library.

Only one invitation was received for 1966 and that was from Los Angeles. Some questioned this future venture to the West Coast from a financial point of view. Ben Haddock questioned “whether the financial success was all that important every year and he believed that, in fact, a National Gymanfa Ganu in Los Angeles would be successful both financially and in attendance. [Little did anyone know then that 1980 census data would show that Los Angeles County had the largest Welsh-American population reporting both parents Welsh (8,393), only exceeded by combining Luzerne (5,580) and Lackawanna (3,922) counties in Pennsylvania. The 1990 census revealed California with the largest population of Welsh-Americans (238,134). It is also interesting to note the continued financial conservatism of some Welsh and to wonder how they expected the WNGGA to continue to carry out it responsibilities for the National Gymanfa Ganu.]

At the Annual General Meeting of Sept 3, 1964. Mrs. **Gwen T. Williams** of the membership committee reported that 39 new life and 76 annual memberships were received during the year.

Dr. M. D. Thomas would like to see some younger conductors brought forward and stressed the necessity of a definite religious fervor in a Gymanfa conductor.

A motion was adopted to send a Resolution to the Welsh Community in Argentina celebrating their 100 years of successful preservation of the customs, language, and culture of its Welsh homeland. **Dr. John Hughes** translated the resolution.

Russell Williams submitted an invitation to hold a regional in Miami in 1965. The BOT rejected the invitation since a National was being held in the East in 1965. While expressing disappointment, Williams said they would go ahead independently of the NGGA. A proposed amendment to the Constitution, that would have permitted a regional in the East or South when a National was scheduled for the West and a regional in the West or South when the National was scheduled in the East, was tabled.

The NGGA net worth including \$2,720.34 in assets (hymnals, phonetics and collectibles) was \$8,610,74.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 3p.m. Sept. 5, 1964 in Philadelphia. **Douglas Jones** raised a question about the fees paid to conductors from overseas. He hoped that they were adequately remunerated. NGGA had no information or control over fees and the president suggested that the NEC look into this.

Mrs. **Trefor[Angharad] Lloyd Roberts** became the first woman President of the Association. A motion carried to have the president appoint a committee to study National Honorary Officers, limits on number, all past presidents to be appointed, wisdom of so many, and appointment in geographical areas.

A motion passed to have the NGGA become a member of Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion.

The Thirty-third Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Welsh Society of Philadelphia and the Women's Welsh Club of Philadelphia was held Sep 4-6, 1964 in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Carlton Jones Lake conducted the choir that sang during both sessions of the gymanfa and the hymn Babel was sung for the In Memoriam. [This hymn was sung for this purpose at many Nationals.]

There was a Friday evening banquet, a Noson Lawen on Saturday and standard gymnafa sessions on Sunday.

1965

Pittsburgh

The Board of Trustees met on Friday Sept. 3, 1965 in Pittsburgh. Chairman of the Finance Committee **E. I. Evans** reported a total reduction in net worth of \$1,757.80. The Finance Committee

suggested a voluntary renewal of life membership, recommended progress on the endowment fund, and felt that each National Gymanfa must earn more than that of the 1964.

George Bundy expected the catalogue of Welsh books to run 200 pages and 1,000 copies would cost about \$2,500. He sought permission to provide a copy to the library of each large city. President Mrs. **Trevor (Angharad) Lloyd Roberts** did not think the Association could bear the cost at this time. There was a suggestion that a separate appeal be sent out to raise money. A reminder that the secretary had been given permission to pay for one master copy led to an agreement to this with no motion taken.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 4, 1965 in Pittsburgh. A motion carried that life members be required to produce their membership card as proof of membership.

The passing of **William E. Lewis** of Youngstown, a founding member and first President of the NGGA was noted.

Concerns over losses led to suggestions to raise the registration fee to \$2 with \$1 to go to the NGGA and \$1 to the sponsoring committee, more strict enforcement of the registration process, and greater control over the sponsoring committees. Renewal of life membership dues, a fund raising effort and an appeal for funds at the Noson Lawen with proceeds going to the endowment fund were also suggested.

It was reported that there were only 1,043 registrations in Philadelphia with about 3,500 present. One trustee recalled that, at one time, entry to the Noson Lawen was by registration badge only and recommended return to this practice as well as a \$2 registration fee.

It was proposed that a book of folk songs be produced and that it be used at the Noson Lawen rather than hymnals. The Hymnal Advisory Committee would consider this. [Consideration covered a long period of time. The WNGGA Folk Song Book, *Songs of the Dragon-Caneuon Y Ddraig* was published in 1993.]

The membership approved amendments to the Constitution recommended by the BOT. See Appendix A.

The Second Meeting of the Board of Trustees took place at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept 4, 1965 while in Pittsburgh.

Suggestions on raising funds included asking future sponsoring committees to take up a special collection during the evening session and exercising greater control over the registration process. [The request of the Milwaukee 1997 committee to take up a collection at a session was met with shock by a BOT that reluctantly approved the request for a collection at the afternoon session.] One pointed out that the Associations non-profit status did not permit admittance to function by registration only. [This comment often appears in the minutes with some thinking that the non-profit status precluded charging fees and admissions.]

Delays in receiving the registration lists from the sponsoring committee were reported as causing delays in updating the mailing list. **Jack Meadows** suggested registration cards with carbons so that a registration list would be immediately available. The NEC will study the matter and come up with a workable system.

Permission was granted the NEC to arrange for a suitable symbol of recognition and might also consider a pin for the Past President. [I could not find that anything happened between 1965 and the late 1990's when lapel pins were awarded identifying board members and officers with attached bars. Additional identification was also provided in the form of more visible lapel tags.]

The president asked for greater support of the *Drych* and arguments were presented for and against the publication.

The Thirty-fourth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Pittsburgh Committee of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held on Sept. 3-5, 1965 in Pittsburgh. The Program carried a page To the Memory of the late Benjamin **F. Fairless** (1890-1962), a leading steel industrialist in the United States, who had been honored in 1954 as "Most distinguished American of Welsh Ancestry" by the St. David's [sic] Society of Philadelphia.

There was a Friday evening concert party featuring vocal soloists **Lola Marshall** and **Bob Bodycombe**, harpist **Gwen Ann Wise** and a "Men About Town" group with "Lola."

An anthem *For This Dear Land* was written for and dedicated to the 1965 National Gymanfa Ganu and sung during the morning session. Soprano **Louise Thomas** and tenor **Robert Bodycombe** were the soloists.

The financial report of the Pittsburgh committee disclosed **receipts** of \$9,758.05, **disbursements** of \$4,967.53 for **net proceeds** of \$4,790.52 with **60% (\$2,874.31)** going to the NGGA treasury. The principal source of receipts was contributions of \$4,558.00.

1966

Los Angeles

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Friday Sept. 2, 1966 in Los Angeles. A recording of the gymanfa sessions was scheduled with the profit from sales going the NGGA.

There was a suggestion that the NGGA profits (\$358.78) from the Eastern Regional held in Cleveland should go into the endowment fund. After a discussion of the legality of such an action under the Constitution, it was decided to transfer \$150 from the general fund to the endowment fund.

Based on an analysis of the financial statements of various gymanfaoedd during the past ten years as well as a breakdown by state of those who attended the Pittsburgh National, **George K. Richards** stated his belief that the National should be held in areas where the majority of the Welsh people live and where financial successes have been achieved.

A motion passed that the work of membership and mailing should be separated with the membership committee handling membership and the secretary handling mailing.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 3, 1966 in Los Angeles. With all standing, the secretary read the names of those who passed away during the previous year and **Menna Williams** placed a rose in a vase in memory of each one

A suggestion that, in view of the venue change each year, the names on the mailing list should not be removed after two years was received with the assurance that the mailing list subject would receive serious and careful attention.

The balance on hand as of July 31, 1956 of \$6,119.17 when added to other assets and collectibles of \$2,589.30 resulted in a net worth of \$9,484.83.

The second meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 2:30 p.m., Sept. 3, 1966 in Los Angeles.

George Bundy reported that the compilation of Welsh titles was taking much of his time and suggested that he might be permitted to give up his secretarial duties to concentrate on this job and handling orders for hymnals. He suggested that he be given the title of Secretary Emeritus. After much discussion of the importance of the Welsh titles job and congratulatory and commendatory comments to George Bundy, an amended motion was adopted asking George Bundy to continue for six months to permit the selection of a new secretary.

The Thirty-fifth National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Southern California Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held in Los Angeles on Sept. 2-4, 1966. Although scheduled for Sept. 2-4, as with many other times, Program activities actually started on Thursday, Sept 1 with registration, a welcoming tea, and an 8:00 p.m. informal concert with "Outstanding Soloists" and a "SING". There were tours on Friday, a banquet and concert and a Saturday Noson Lawen. There were three church services on Sunday and two sessions of the gymanfa.

Actor **Rhys Williams** was an Honorary Vice President. Letters were received from the Archbishop of Wales and the private secretary to **Earl Snowdon**.

For the first time, the Program contained a program for the banquet and a note that details of the concert accompanied the menu. The cover of the Program carried a Red Dragon Crest (Y DDRAIG GOGH DDYRY CYCHWYN) on the outline of a Celtic cross.

The sessions of the gymanfa were standard except that the newly elected officers of the NGGA were introduced during the evening session.

A sort of confusing report of the Los Angeles committee showed a \$4,005 contribution from **Dr. and Mrs. M. D. Edwards** for a total of \$19,730.25.

Commentary

The long lasting disagreement over the processing of amendment changes through the executive committee and trustees for approval ignored the right of any organization to establish the rules governing its operations and securing approval from its members. Combined with objections on the part of a small group over the election of officers by the BOT, the solution to these two problems would have placed these responsibilities on the membership. Making the membership responsible for the election of officers ignores the fact that the membership is too far removed from personalities and qualifications to be able to match potential officers and operational requirements.

The amount of time spent on discussing *Y Drych* pointed up differing agendas—that of a publisher forced to a primary concern over the bottom line and the beneficiary’s concern with the newspaper as a cultural agent.

There was an early forecast of problems with the sponsoring committees. The BOT always had authority to control the sponsoring committees. Time, distance, the diffusion of the volunteer trustee talents and experience all combined to weaken the control. One could almost sense a feeling of “Don’t rock the boat, just hope everything turns out all right. It does most of the time.”

Concerns over commercialization of the gymanfa were appreciated but naïve in the belief that all could come about without expense and the need for money.

CHAPTER 10

Return Visits (1967-1972)

The election of Secretary **Jack Meadows** and Treasurer **David M. Edwards** started their long careers and service to the WNGGA.

Because of past lack of control over the registration process, suggestions were made that the entire registration should be under the control of the NGGA rather than the local sponsoring committee. [It took 32 years for this suggestion to be implemented.] Another suggestion was that the NGGA take over responsibility for the Sunday sessions and the local sponsoring committee retain responsibility for the dinner. These suggestions were the beginning of realization that the complexities of arranging a National required resources and standardized processes not always available at the local level. For the first time, loans were authorized to the sponsoring committee indicating awareness of the tentative nature of early financing of a National.

The St. David's Welsh Society of Buffalo absorbed a loss of \$566 in Buffalo, caused by the local committee filling the breach when no invitations were received for 1968. Modernization of administration moved forward with the authorization of addressograph equipment. An invitation was received from the Wales Tourist Board to hold the National in Cardiff in 1969, the year of the Prince of Wales Investiture. A collection of \$3,592.70 to benefit victims of the Aberfan Disaster was sent to Wales.

The need for a monthly publication, newsletter, newsheet or bulletin was repeated over the years. Even a newspaper was considered and abandoned because of unspecified costs. [A first bulletin was published in 1964 and continued spottily until the winter of 1991 when the first issue of *HWYL* appeared. *HWYL* continues, on a more or less regularly scheduled basis, to be the WNGGA's principal publication for members.] For many years, concern was expressed over the future of *Y Drych* with various schemes offered but never implemented.

The successful 1969 gymanfa in Cardiff led to a decision to reserve the designation National Gymanfa Ganu to gymanfaoedd held in the United States or Canada.

A major new addition to the WNGGA was the sponsorship, by the 1970 Milwaukee venue committee, of the Welsh Associated Youth (WAY). The establishment of WAY started what would be a problem in future years-the Labor Day dates of the Nationals conflicting with the start of the school and college year.

In 1971, an amendment to the Constitution changed the name of the Association to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

Unspecified problems in Salt Lake City (1972) confirmed the need for the sponsoring committee to abide by the wishes of the Board of Trustees and more involvement of the BOT in a planning role. Rules and Regulations to the sponsoring committee were deferred until the next annual meeting.

1967

Toronto

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Sept.1, 1967 in Toronto. President **John G. Roberts** extended a special welcome to **George Bundy**, Secretary of the NGGA for over thirty-four years, part of which he served as both secretary and treasurer, and Honorary President for the year 1966-67. He also expressed deep regret over the passing of **Menna Williams** who had worked so conscientiously as the NGGA treasurer. He also reported on the election of **Jack Meadows** to the office of Secretary and **David M. Edwards** as Treasurer. [I remember a successor of Dave Edwards telling me that his answer when asked how much money was in the NGGA treasury was "Sufficient." This expression reflected the basically conservative nature of financial operations in the WNGGA.]

There was considerable discussion on how to dispose of the Aberfan Disaster Fund with expressions that the local committee in Aberfan would prefer not to receive any further donations until considerable thought be given to their use there. A committee was appointed to study the disposition of the Aberfan Disaster Fund.

John G. Roberts reported \$1,899.50 in the Endowment Fund.

The president reported that the sponsoring committee had been asked to make every effort to have everyone register, he felt that registrations should be under the jurisdiction of the NGGA and that the cards should be given to the NGGA with the NGGA supplying the sponsoring committee with the list of registrants. [This was not to happen until 1999 when centralized registration at the WNGGA International Headquarters was tested for the Minneapolis National. This became a standard practice starting in 2001 at San Jose.] There was a proposal that registration should be required even if a person did not wish to pay the \$1.00 fee.

The NGGA will provide a list of all Welsh societies in North America to Undeb y Cymry ar Wasgar and \$18 for two years of dues.

It was agreed that a suggestion to amend the distribution of proceeds of the National to 50/50 % would be presented to the AGM.

No invitation has been received for the 1968 National and the possibility of holding it in Cleveland the week before the Labor Day weekend would be considered.

Irving Davies reported on some dissension in the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association (OGGA), the new president was not being treated fairly and that the OGGA Board of Trustees had not really been responsible for the National Gymanfa in Toronto. He voiced a strong protest to the National Board of Trustees that such a situation should not again be permitted.

The 1967 Annual General Meeting was held on Sept. 2, 1967 in Toronto.

The names of those connected with the Association who passed away during the past year were read and a rose was place in a vase in memory of each one.

The balance of the recordings made at the Los Angeles National were given to the NGGA and their sale should realize additional proceeds from that National for the NGGA.

Douglas Jones felt that the money collected for the Aberfan Disaster should be sent there immediately.

A motion passed to retain the 60/40% split in favor of the NGGA. **Douglas Jones** felt that the NGGA should be responsible for all the Sunday sessions and that any banquet should be the responsibility of the sponsoring committee.

Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas reported that she and her husband had personally paid the cost of the recording and records. Once their expenses were realized, the records were being given to the NGGA and should realize a profit of \$4-5,000 from their sale.

There was a suggestion that opportunity should be provided for younger membership on the board of trustees and those who have long served the Board should be retained in an advisory capacity.

The second meeting of the Board of Trustees in Toronto was held at 3 p.m. on Sept. 2, 1967. A discussion regarding venues concluded that the Board of Trustees was going to have to work harder than in the past to secure a venue. The NEC was authorized to take whatever action, including a loan of \$500 or \$1,000 to a sponsoring group, to get things going.

David Edwards remarked that he had another year to serve as a trustee and since he was now treasurer he wanted to resign in favor of **Emrys J. Davies** of Cleveland. There was some discussion whether a retiree could designate his successor. [A review of the board indicates that some officers served as trustees while in office. Even though the Constitution clearly specified that the BOT was made up of the elected officers and 17 trustees, there was no clearly defined procedure for filling trustee vacancies when a trustee became an officer.]

Secretary **Jack Meadows** was awarded an annual gift of \$250, Treasurer **David Edwards** \$100 and a \$50 monthly payment was made to **George Bundy** for his work on Welsh titles.

The Thirty-sixth Annual National Gymanfa Ganu sponsored by the Ontario Gymnafa Ganu Association was held on 1-3 Sept 1967 in Toronto. This was Canada's Centennial Year. The registration badge was the pass for all events.

The Program stated that the Awr y Plant (Children's Hour) was introduced at the 1961 OGGA gymanfa for children up to age 14 who were encouraged to perform Welsh items either vocally or instrumentally. There was a Friday night welcoming banquet with entertainment.

This was the first appearance of conductor **Alun John**, B. Sc., Dip.Ed., A.R.C.M. of Pontycymmer, Wales who was to conduct at a total of five Nationals. See App. F.

Ron Evans, a contributor to the 1959 Toronto Program, provided a page in the Program carrying the following P.S. to an 1830 letter from Wales to the Welsh settlement in Upper Canada, near London (Canada):

“I wish you would endeavor to keep the Welsh language although the English is more essential to you. The Lord has magnified the Welsh and their language above all the nations of the world, in my opinion, and I am hoping that they will not be abased for all the ages of the world, until He shall appear the second time upon the clouds.”

Ron went on to lament the dispersion of the Welsh in the New World, the fact that no one really knew how many Welsh were in Canada since, that different than the Irish and the Scots, the Welsh “were always lumped in with the English.” He pointed out that they still sing and mostly in Welsh. He also provided an assurance, 137 years later, that the language has been kept.

[The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association has made major contributions to the continuance and expansion of the use of Welsh language on this continent. This would continue up to the present time with the singing of Welsh hymns in Welsh and its support of Welsh language training in the United States and Canada.]

1968

Buffalo

There was a special meeting of the Board of Trustees at 2 p.m., Friday, Aug. 30, 1968 in Buffalo. The main purpose of this special meeting was to discuss an invitation from the Wales Tourist Board to hold a National in Cardiff in 1969 also the year of the Investiture of the Prince of Wales at Caernarvon Castle. A recommendation that the invitation be accepted provided necessary arrangements can be made to the satisfaction of the NGGA was adopted. Responsibility was left to the NEC to furnish all advices to every one concerned.

There was a meeting of the Board of Trustees on Friday, August 30, 1968 in Buffalo. **Jack Meadows** reported on taking over from **George Bundy** and, through condensation of the mailing list, he has determined that there were 1,726 families represented on the list.

The Aberfan Fund for £1,500 (\$3,592.70) was sent to Aberfan for the setting up of a scholarship fund.

Chairman of the Endowment Fund **John G. Roberts** reported \$2,157.62 in the fund and recommended that it be transferred from his name “as trustee” to the NGGA Endowment Fund.

It was agreed that Cardiff would hold a National Gymanfa Ganu of the United States and Canada from June 27 to 29, 1969 and that Cleveland would hold the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu of the United States and Canada over Labor weekend 1969.

The Annual General Meeting was held on August 31, 1968 in Buffalo. A Memorial Service was held, **Morris Wrench** gave a solo, **Jack Meadows** read the names of those who died, and a rose in memory of each was placed in a vase.

There was some discussion on the quality of material published by *Drych* and a suggestion that the Association should have a monthly publication.

The second meeting of the Board was held at 3 p.m. August 31, 1968 in Buffalo. Treasurer **David M. Edwards** resigned as a Trustee in favor of **Emrys J. Davies** but was advised that conditional resignation could not be accepted. He resigned and **Lewis J. Jones** was elected.

A motion carried that letters be sent to the Librarian of William and Mary College, Williamsburg, VA asking what plans they had to relocate **the Goronwy Owen** Memorial tablet back into the College Library. The tablet was removed during renovation of the library.

Jack Meadows reported that 1,500 spirally bound hymnals, with all the previous hymns plus four new hymns and no folk songs has been published. The cost of printing 10,000 of these hymnals was approximately \$3,610. A motion carried to charge \$1.00 for the new hymnal in spite of an amendment to charge only \$.75.

The secretary was authorized to investigate further and purchase a graphotype machine at a cost of no more than \$400.

The Thirty-Seventh Annual National, sponsored by St. David's Welsh Society of Buffalo, was held in Buffalo on Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 1968. The Program listed 17 Trustees including **David M. Edwards** and **Lewis Edwards** who were also officers. **George Bundy** was listed as the Secretary-Emeritus The **Rev. R. Cerwyn Davies**, Minister of the Londale Presbyterian Church in Scarborough, ON, was the guest minister. He was later to become trustee and president of the WNGGA.

The Buffalo Committee reported a loss of \$566.56, which was absorbed by the St. David's Welsh Society of Buffalo.

1969

Cleveland

The Board of Trustees met of Aug. 29, 1969 in Cleveland. A letter was received from a Mr. **Williams** of England concerning royalties for some of the hymn tunes being used. Judge Jenkins knew of no agreement on this subject and felt that after 22 years it would be "out-lawed".

The Annual General Meeting was held on August 30, 1969 in Cleveland. Problems continued with *Drych*. owner and publisher **Horace Breese Powell**. He has not attended a National for over five

years and has not shown any interest in the plans for the 1970 national in Milwaukee. The NEC was asked to make an investigation and report to the board.

In addition to the loss at Buffalo, \$152 has been paid out by the NGGA for stationery and additional publicity, but \$100 has been received from the Buffalo Committee as a token of their goodwill. The Buffalo committee took on the 1968 National when no other invitation was received. In view of this fact, sympathetic understanding took the place of criticism over the results.

President **Lewis Edwards** suggested that “the Gymanfa was a happy, not a sad, occasion and that if everyone acted accordingly, more young people would be attracted and attend.” He also reported that the Cardiff event had been outstanding in every way.

Secretary **Meadows** reported that Honorary Life Memberships had been presented to **Sir David J. Davies**, **Lyn Howell**, **Mr. Keri Harris-Hughes** and **Hywel Hughes** (Bogota) while in Cardiff.

An addressograph machine had been purchased and approximately 1,500 families were on the mailing list.

The financial report for the period ending July 31, 1969 showed **BOHBP** of \$5,199.62, **receipts** of \$4,327.99, **disbursements** of \$6,483.17 for a **BOHEP** of \$3,043.82. Major **expenses** included \$3,360 for printing of hymnals. The endowment fund **BOHEP** was \$2,382.59. A financial report of the National in Cardiff showed **receipts** of £2,507.20, **payments** resulting in a **surplus** of £840 2 s 1p with no indication in the report of disposition of the surplus. [The abbreviations **BOHBP** (Balance on hand beginning period) and **BOHEP** (Balance on hand end period) will be used in finance reports.]

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 4:15 p.m. Aug. 30, 1969 in Cleveland. Much discussion relative to the relationship with **Horace Breese Powell** and *Drych* led to asking **Gwynn Parri** to “attempt to intercede on behalf of the NGGA with Mr. Horace Breese Powell at the earliest possible opportunity to see if anything of the relationship with the *Drych* could be salvaged and if anything could be made of it.”

A suggestion that the NGGA send out a news bulletin every month or three months until other arrangements could be made led to an estimated cost of \$120 plus stationery

It was again stated that the Board was going to have to become more involved in venue selection, arrangements for the National, and promotion for the endowment fund.

The 38th Annual National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Cleveland Welsh Society, was held on Aug. 29-31, 1969 in Cleveland. The schedule of events was standard and included a tour of the Welsh Home in Rocky Ridge, OH. The Program carried an article on the NGGA Endowment Fund, explaining that only income from the fund could be expended, and making an appeal for contributions. [In spite of this clear explanation, the endowment fund remained a subject of confusion and misunderstanding for many years.]

A special meeting of the Board was held on Monday, Sept. 1, 1969 in Cleveland. A committee was appointed to investigate the legality of the NGGA sponsoring a flight to Wales for members to attend the National Eisteddfod at Ammanford and the International Eisteddfod at Llangollen.

All the phonetic hymnals have been sold and the Secretary will determine the cost of printing 500 or 1,000 more. [The success of the phonetic hymnal was a clear indication of the interest of non-Welsh speakers in learning to sing the hymns in Welsh.]

1970

Milwaukee

The Board of Trustees met on Friday, Sept 4, 1970 in Milwaukee. The financial report showed \$1,248.88 received from the Cardiff National of 1969, and \$940 for the printing of 1,000 phonetic hymnals. The endowment fund balance was \$3,527.40.

Mrs. Mary Griswold, Director of WAY (Welsh American Youth) was introduced and spoke hoping that the organization would be officially formed over the weekend. A motion carried that the NGGA give its total support to WAY consistent with the rules and regulations of the NGGA. It was noted that the Milwaukee Sponsoring Committee was responsible for the formation of this new organization.

The Secretary was authorized to take out necessary insurance covering the Association's property.

The 1970 Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 5, 1970 in Milwaukee. **Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas** read a letter from her husband, **Dr. M. D. Thomas**, enclosing a check for \$1,000 from the sale of records of the 1966 Gymanfa in Los Angeles. Records were still available and receipts from any sales would be turned over to the NGGA.

There were 19 annual and 111 life members were present. Thirty-five States were represented in the mailing list.

The results of the election of officers for WAY were **David Stevens**-President, **Jennifer Monkhouse**-Vice President, **Jane Thomas**-Secretary, and **Keith Steinlein**-Treasurer.

A motion that each member of WAY present be given a hymnal and phonetics book was amended to refer the matter to the Board of Trustees. A motion to give one-year membership to all members of WAY carried.

Mair Monkhouse's comments on the poor reception for Welsh youth groups visiting North America were rebutted by many members from various cities.

Dr. Llewelyn Williams suggested that the division of the US might be changed to East, mid-West, Rockies, and Far West requiring a change in the Constitution and that the split of National proceeds should be 50/50%. Both subjects were referred to the BOT.

One comment expressed the belief that the future of National Gymanfa laid in enlarging it by opening it to non-Welsh groups.

Dismay was expressed that the subject of *Drych* had been referred to the BOT three times with no solution. **Gwynn Parri** reported no progress on the subject and still working on it.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 5. 1970 at 3:00 p.m.

A motion carried that the split of National proceeds should remain 60/40% in favor of the national treasury.

It was agreed that the NGGA should provide a contribution of \$50 to WAY and appoint two members to act as liaison with WAY.

Discussion on unsatisfactory negotiations with **Horace Breese Powell** led to the possibility of **John O. Morgans** being approached to see if he would be willing to lay out a NGGA news sheet to be printed, at the direction of the secretary, on a quarterly basis.

A motion carried to name the NGGA Endowment Fund “The Judge David G. Jenkins Endowment Fund.”

The 39th National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin and supported by the Welsh Women’s Club of Milwaukee, was held on Sept. 4-6, 1970.

Toasts at the banquet included The President, United States; The Queen; The Prince of Wales and The Gymanfa. The Program for both sessions listed *America (My Country tis of Thee)*, *O Canada*, and *Two Counties By the Sea as the National Anthems*. **Robert Bodycombe** returned again as soloist.

The Program announced the death of WNGGA Trustee **Judge David G. Jenkins** of Youngstown on July 12, 1970. Judge Jenkins’ brilliant description of the Gymanfa Ganu still appears on the inside front cover of official hymnals of the WNGGA.

The financial report for the Milwaukee National showed **receipts** of \$15,573.01, **expenses** of \$14,155.29 and a **balance** of \$1,417.72 with **60% (\$850.63)** accruing to the NGGA.

1971

Salt Lake City

A meeting of the NGGA Executive Committee was held on Thursday, Sept. 2, 1971 in Salt Lake City. A letter was sent to **Secretary–Emeritus George Bundy** on his 94th Birthday.

After much discussion the NEC opined that the endowment fund should not be named after anyone individual.

Registration cards are retained for 20 years. The mailing list is retained for two years and if members do not attend a National their names are removed.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sept 3, 1971 in Salt Lake City. **Lyn Howell**, Wales Tourist Board, reported on the gymanfa in Cardiff. He hoped for another trip to Wales and that a National be held possibly at Swansea.

President **Emlyn Lloyd** said that the Board should “not at anytime take over sponsoring a National, this should be done by the local committee”.

President **Lloyd** and Secretary **Meadows** met with **John O. Morgans** of Detroit on the subject of a new Welsh paper. They concluded that it would be too costly and not practical. The president also met with **Horace Breese Powell** who finances and publishes the *Drych* who feels he is the one to determine what goes into the paper

A motion CARRIED that the endowment fund should no longer be called the Judge Jenkins Endowment Fund. It was felt that it was bad precedent to name a fund, to which many could contribute, to honor an individual.

The 1971 Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 4, 1971 in Salt Lake City with 65 life and 48 annual members in attendance.

The endowment Fund showed a **BOHEP** of \$5,189.64. A Memorial Book, a bound leather binder listed in a permanent record all the names, amount, and location of each member who donated to the endowment fund since Sept. 4, 1970.

An invitation was received from the St. David’s Society of New York City to hold the 1975 National there. They also expressed the hope to bring the Pendyrus Choir from Wales.

Secretary **Meadows** reported being in contact with the Philadelphia Society concerning holding the 1976 National there at the time of their centennial [really The Bicentennial of the United States].

An agreement was reached with **Horace Breese Powell** for some publicity to be given as suits NGGA purposes.

The secretary reported 3,784 hymnals and 657 phonetics have been sold. [It was not clear if these sales were for one year.]

The Constitution and By-Laws as written by the committee were accepted. Major provisions included a name change to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (WNGGA) and exclusion of the immediate past president (IPP) from the Executive Committee (EXCOM). Those in favor of including the IPP on the EXCOM cited use of his experience; those against feared his looking over

shoulder of the current president. [These were the reasons for the many movements of the IPP into and out of the EXCOM.]

A meeting of the Board was held at 2:30 p.m., Sept 4, 1971. There was more discussion of a need to learn more about WAY. President **Lloyd** felt that financial aid should not be given until more was known about how moneys will be spent. A motion carried that a committee of four people, two officers from the Board and two officers from WAY, meet to discuss the position of NGGA and WAY.

Invitations from St. Catherines, ON (1973), Wales Tourist Board (1974) and New York City (1975) were accepted on motions. It would only be a Gymanfa Ganu in Wales, since the designation National was reserved only for Nationals held in the United States and Canada.

Gwynn J. Parri suggested that trustees wear their badges so they will be known and available to answer questions about the NGGA. New badges were to be made, designed by Parri to include a suitable one for the immediate past president. Badges are to be controlled by the secretary.

A motion carried to terminate membership in Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar. [This is another example of the changing opinions to be expected in any organization. However, after all the time spent in determining that the NGGA would become a member of what appeared to be a worthwhile organization, one wonders.]

The 40th National Gymanfa Ganu sponsored, by the Utah Gynmanfa Ganu Association, was held in Salt Lake City on Sept 2-5, 1971. For the first time the agenda for the annual general meeting appeared in the Program. As with the 24th National in 1955, the Program showed a full schedule for four days. Registration began on Thursday. Friday was taken up with a visit to the Peace Gardens and luncheon, tours of Salt Lake City, and a 7:00 p.m. banquet. The Utah Youth Chorus and Symphony presented a Saturday concert in the Tabernacle. The Saturday evening Noson Lawen featured a drama “Glan Rhondda”, a play in three acts dramatizing the genesis of *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau*. The Sunday 10:30 a.m. Tabernacle Choir broadcast was followed with a bilingual Morning Worship also in the Tabernacle. The Sunday afternoon session was televised. The day ended with an evening session followed with a Grand Get-together and refreshments in the Hotel Utah Ballroom.

The Program contained a reprint of a February 17, 1971 entry into the Congressional Record “The Welsh in America” by Hon. **Thomas M. Rees** of California.[March 1, St. David’s Day, actually commemorates the death of Dewi Sant.]

Mr. Speaker, the birth of St. David, the Welsh patron saint, will be commemorated on March 1 by Welsh-Americans throughout America—nothing like the St. Patrick gatherings, though St. Patrick was born in Wales and grew up speaking Welsh, not Latin

Very little has been written of what the Welsh have contributed in all walks of life in the shaping of American history.

Twenty percent of the Pilgrim Fathers were Welsh, as was the Captain of the Mayflower.

How many know that almost 50 percent of the signers of the American Declaration of Independence were Welsh or of Welsh descent—as were nine of the Presidents of the United States— and that many of the universities and colleges such as Yale, Princeton, Brown, William and Mary, Virginia, Johns Hopkins and Andover were founded by Welshmen.

The man who financed the War of Independence was Robert Morris. Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn and Rhode Island by Roger Williams—all were Welsh. It is strange indeed that such a small country—as Wales, so many people are hardly aware of its existence—has contributed so much more in proportion to its size than any other nation, and stranger still that so little has been written of it. Oh Yes. The next time you are in the Capitol [sic] and feel like climbing the Washington Monument stairway, about halfway up there is a stone inscribed:

“FY IAITH, FY NGWLAD, FY NGHENEDL WALES—CYMRU AM BYTH”

Thomas Jefferson would have placed it where more people would see it, for he was very proud of his Welsh origin.

It would take many pages to name the great Welsh Americans since the Founding Fathers, who have helped build America—in government, industry, labor, finance, law, architecture, music, religion, literature.

Yes the Welsh in America can be very proud of their heritage. And it is to be hoped that as each St. David’s Day comes around more people will remember how much good has come from so small a country, where the greatest honor each year is to be crowned “Poet of the Year”

1972

Chicago

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Thursday, August 31, 1972 in Chicago. A visit to St. Catherines, ON determined that facilities were not adequate for the 1973 National and a change to Toronto was made by the executive committee. Wales Tourist Board representative, **D. J. Evans**, reported on the plans made for a 1974 gymanfa in Swansea.

John G. Roberts stated again that the time has come for new blood and younger members on the Board of Trustees.

President **Emlyn Lloyd**, in commenting on the report of the 1971 Salt Lake City sponsoring committee, stated “that this report was not as accurate as reports of this kind should be. Various setbacks seemed to have complicated matters at Salt Lake City during their sessions.” He further stated “that due to these situations the local committee should definitely abide by the wishes and dictates of the National Gymanfa Ganu committee. He ...accepted the report... in the future the sponsoring committee should work together with the National Gymanfa Ganu committee and accept their

guidance.” [The following letters all seemed to reflect problems over unspecified occurrences in Salt Lake City.]

Mrs. Alfred C. Jones stated “that she did not approve of the way the by-laws were handled at the annual meeting in Salt Lake City”. As a parliamentarian, she offered her services for the WNGGA.

W. Irvine Davies “suggested that the National Gymanfa Ganu Committee should play a more prominent role in the sponsoring of these Nationals, they should be the sole sponsors of these events”. This was in the form of a resolution.

Jean Williams Steinlein suggested “that the financial reports of the local sponsoring committee should be in the hands of the national committee no later than January 1st and a 50/50 split should be obtained rather than the present 60/40 split....”

Price L. Jones who felt that “we should be better organized to further promote local Gymanfa Ganu’s, St. David’s Day programs and a newsletter should be sent regarding these events”.

Other letters were received from **O. Trygelles Williams** [Huw Tregelles] of B.B.C, that “He is interested in trying to get the B.B.C. to televize the National Gymnafa Ganu” and from Gwynn Parri who designed an emblem for the WNGGA and suggested that these could be made and sold if there was interest.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held in Chicago on Friday, Sept. 1, 1972.

The treasurer’s report indicated sale of hymnals and phonetics continues to be the greatest source of income.

David M. Edwards reported that Secretary **Meadows** had a busy year with all necessary letters “extending from the Salt Lake City business” being sent out, new badges for the officers taken care of and 2,000 hymnals and 100 phonetics sold.

Gwynn Parri stated that the main problem WAY seems to have is “lack of communication they seem to have with the National Gymanfa Ganu Association”. He assured them [WAY] that “dictation from the board was not their intention, the Board of Trustees are more than willing to help them”. Mr. Davis will be having a meeting with WAY officers to discuss the resignation of their advisor, Mary Griswold. [It was evident that there were problems with WAY from the beginning. This should have been expected.]

The proposed “Rules and Regulations to the sponsoring Organizations of the Annual National and/or Regional Gymanfa Ganu” will be presented during the annual general meeting.

The 1972 Annual General Meeting was held on Sept. 2, 1972 in Chicago. **Dic Thomas** raised a question about the change of the name to the WNGGA. The answer was that the change was made after due consideration and it was felt that the “addition of Welsh would so identify us.” Thomas asked

about the \$26 fee paid to the State of Ohio. This was a charge for the change of the Constitution that had to be filed in Ohio.

Ann Davies Thomas reported that **Col. [E. G.] Thomas**, at the age of 92, was to receive the honor of being the Senior Commander of the Spanish American War Veterans.

A total of \$1,535 has been donated to the endowment fund since Sept 2, 1971.

In addition to the contents of her letter, **Jean Williams Steinlein** suggested that the BOT should select the headquarters hotel and that the sponsoring committee take over the details from there.

A Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting was held at 3:00 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 2, 1972.

There are sufficient hymnals (1,800) on hand enough to last a year. Since 1948, 1952, 1954, 1959, 1963, and 1968, 10,000 hymnals were printed. [I have no way of knowing what this meant.]

A motion to become a member in “Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar lost.

Lewis Edwards said the split for Toronto would be 60/40 but warned that the split would be brought up in meeting again.

The expenses and treasury balance of WAY were explained. **Gwynn Parri** and **Dr. John Jones** were appointed liaison to WAY and \$200 donation to WAY was approved. WAY was authorized to have representation at board meetings. There was a separate program of activities for WAY.

The Forty-first Annual Welsh National Gymanfa, sponsored by the Chicago Sponsoring Committee, was held on Sept. 1-3, 1972 in Chicago.

As indicated at recent Nationals, and in an effort to control non-registered entry, admission to the sessions was by registration badges only and to the concert by tickets.

The program for the Friday reception included introductions, soloists, and a sketch “Chicago and the Welsh National Gymanfa-Nostalgia, Reminiscence and Memories” presented by members of the sponsoring committee. The first clearly labeled Grand Concert featured soloists **Bob Bodycombe** and **Lola Marshall**. Bob and Lola were known for their programs of Broadway show music, appearances with the Cleveland Symphony, many St. David’s Banquets and as soloists at the First Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. Bob appeared at many Nationals. **Estelle Roberts Schubert** continued her many services to the Nationals, this time as concert accompanist.

***Francis [Frances] Williams**, born in Caernarvonshire, came to the United States as a child, returned as conductor. She has had an outstanding composing and conducting career and was awarded the 1961 Hopkins Medal of the St. David’s Society of the State of New York for her distinguished contributions to music. *[both spellings occurred in the records, although research indicates that *Frances* is correct]

Commentary

A series of letters received during the 1972 National in Chicago hinted at some dissension in the ranks over conduct and proceedings during meetings. I could not find any specifics in the records on the problems with the 1971 National in Salt Lake City. After all the interest that was in Salt Lake City as evidenced with the 1949, 1955 and 1971 Nationals, it is sad to see that the 21 August 2003 membership report showed only four WNGGA members in the State of Utah.

The 1971 change in the name of the Association seemed to have been an undeserved catalyst leading to the problems at the BOT meetings in the 1970's.

There was an early indication of problems with WAY that ended up being a forecast of things to come with WAY that probably should have been expected.

CHAPTER 11

Years of Confusion, Contention, Clarification and Finally, Contentment (1973-1979)

This chapter heading may well raise eyebrows and objections. However, even a casual reading of meeting minutes, which were becoming longer, can not help but sense the frustration and heat present during the meetings. The period, while beginning in 1973, can be characterized by the comments of two long time serving trustees. During a Board of Trustees meeting on 12 October 1974, **Ben Haddock** “deplored the lengthiness of the Annual Meetings which were held up, he asserted, by dissenting Canadians who are in fact the minority.” Around this time there were 744 life members with about 50 from Canada. It must be acknowledged, however, that there were other non-Canadian problems causing the frustration and heat. During the Annual Meeting of 1 September 1979, **Ann Davies Thomas** commented “That this was the first time we have laughed at a WNGGA meeting in a long time.” This seemed to signal the end of a difficult period for the Association.

With that as an introduction to the introduction, let’s look at the period. While there were past hints of problems to come, they seemed to come to a head with the Toronto National (1973).

Controversy erupted over the division of authority between the membership and the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees (BOT). This was the beginning of many discussions on the Association’s Constitution and unfounded questions of its legality. There were many misunderstandings and misinterpretations of the Constitution. There were other problems caused by dissension between some of the officers and the exercise of power. The need for an institutional memory was becoming evident. No where was this more apparent than with the status of a representative of the local sponsoring committee on or off the BOT.

In spite of all the above, there was progress. Planning started for the 50th Anniversary Celebration in 1979 that proved to be an unqualified success.

Wales Week in New York was sponsored by the Development Corporation of Wales and may have been an early forecast of things to come some thirty years later

A new Constitution was adopted, by an overwhelming vote of 107 to 4, in 1978.

Life membership continued to grow with some beginning to think that the life membership fee needed upward revision or even renewal at times. In 1978, life membership exceeded the thousand mark at 1,164 (1,060-US, 96-Canadian, and 8 UK) with an additional 85 annual members.

There were longer meetings during the period with longer minutes, the longest being the set that reported the 1976 meetings. Some abbreviations became helpful: BOT (Board of Trustees), AGM (Annual General Meeting), EXCOM (Executive Committee), IPP (Immediate Past President) and the previously mentioned BOHBP and BOHEP.

At the end of this tumultuous period, assets of the WNGGA included \$30,617.55 in the General Fund and \$22,681 in the Endowment Fund

1973

Toronto

A Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 31, 1973. **William Blanch**, Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee and the OGGGA said that some changes had been made for this year. A dance would follow the banquet and the bar would not be located in the banquet room. The memorial service would be held during the Sunday morning service and they wished to institute a new system by having a silent memorial rather than the usual procedure. In response to a comment about placing a rose in a vase for each departed, Blanch said they felt this type of service was medieval and a moment of silence was more dignified. The secretary was provided a letter on this subject and the change was already in the program. President **Owen C. Roberts** said that to avoid any hard feelings the executive board had decided to have the memorial service at the annual meeting in the usual manner and at the Sunday Service the prayer would include any names that had not been mentioned. **Mr. Blanch** took issue with this as they had contacted the National officers and had a written consent for these changes. **John Martin** stated that the BOT had decided that the memorial service was to be changed and he had a letter to that effect. He stated that this was all done in good faith. The discussion raised questions about people at morning service not being at the general meeting and that the memorial service was a personal part of the general meeting. Additional comments included the memorial being so important that it could be held on the Sunday memorial and on Saturday also, and, with all due respect to the sponsoring committee, the memorial was for the National as a whole. President **Owen C. Roberts** said he was embarrassed about the whole situation and it was unanimously moved that the debate be completed

Jack Meadows questioned whether the \$6 price for the banquet could be lowered and Blanch said that was impossible (the meal itself costs \$3.80) and that those attending the dance only would pay \$3.

Mr. Blanch asked why information on Swansea was sent out before information on the National in Toronto. He felt that this would adversely affect the attendance in Toronto. The answer was because it was in Wales and would in no way affect Toronto.

There was agreement not to change the 60/40 split since this was the only source of funds available to the WNGGA. It was also felt that it was impossible for the WNGGA to be the sole sponsor of future nationals.

A number of recommended amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws were made by a letter signed by **W. P. Blanch**, **John Martin**, and **Lewis Edwards**. These included provisions that no officers except the president completing two terms shall be eligible for re-election until two years have passed, all officers and/or assistants shall be elected by members present during the AGM, and the Immediate Past President (IPP) shall be included on the executive committee. Much discussion led to a

motion by **Eluned Thomas** that the BOT support the executive committee that studied these recommended amendments and did not recommend them. The motion carried. When it was felt that it had not been understood, a second vote was taken with nine in favor of the motion and four against.

Lewis Edwards' question on the number of members was answered—744 life members and an average total of 100 annual members each year.

George Bundy, Secretary-Emeritus celebrated his 96th birthday.

A grand total of \$3,548.07 was received for the endowment fund since Sep. 2, 1972 bringing the total in the endowment fund to \$10,385.51.

A motion passed authorizing **John G. Roberts** to take \$7,500-8,000 from the endowment fund to invest in government bonds at 9½ % interest.

The 1973 Annual General Meeting was held in Toronto on Sept. 1, 1973. This was the third time the National was held in Toronto.

The letters from **Jean Steinlein** and **Lewis Edwards** on the 60/40 split were not accepted by the Executive Board [sic]. Much discussion included a question from **John Martin** on the legality of the Executive Board to make a final decision. A reading of the Constitution determined that the Constitution might be amended by a three-quarters (75%) vote of the members voting at an annual meeting. The Executive Board and BOT can make recommendations. **Mr. Blanch** wanted to know why the Executive Committee decided to “decline this resolution” and **Lewis Edwards** moved that the amendments be accepted as proposed. **Rev. Kenneth Jones** felt that re-election to offices of secretary and treasurer should be permitted without any restrictions. Treasurer, **David Edwards** felt that because of workload the treasurer could not be changed every two years. **John Martin**, who signed the letter on the amendments, “remarked that he wants to make it clear that the three members who signed the letter meant to perpetuate not to destroy. He felt we should have a change, as there is always room for new blood. Power should be over many, not in the hands of a few and the ruling body should be the people”. **Mr. Tom Edwards** remarked “that he is troubled by the tone and comments of this meeting. We should perhaps take another look at the Constitution and decide who should be the leader in coming years”.

Tom Edwards asked for the total membership and was told that there were 744 life members, with 50 from Canada, over 100 annual members and a mailing list of 2,900 families. He said that “a great proportion of the members want to have a say in this organization today and we should attempt to make a change”. [No one challenged this statement relative to “A great proportion of the members” want to have a say. No one referred to Article XI (2) of the Constitution that states that any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for its consideration and approval no later than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.] A motion was made and accepted to table the discussion. The President said that the BOT would take this under discussion at their afternoon meeting.

A financial report from WAY indicated **BOHBP** of \$151.43, **receipts** of \$277.73, **disbursements** of \$168 for a **BOHEP** of \$261.16.

A question following the report of the endowment fund about tax exemption in Canada was answered with the advice that exemption was not available since the WNGGA was registered in the State of Ohio and ends with the State border. [No one challenged this statement to point out that incorporation in the State of Ohio did not restrict the geographical activities of the WNGGA in any way. If the above statement were true, every corporation with activities across the country would have to incorporate in every state. No one pointed out that the tax exemption granted by the US Internal Revenue service had nothing to do with incorporation in the State of Ohio.]

The Memorial Service was held during the AGM with the placing of a rose in a vase for each member who passed away.

A motion to have the Constitution amended to permit a member of the sponsoring committee to be an ex-officio member of the BOT was not accepted since it had to come in a letter to the BOT. [Again and again.]

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 1, 1973 in Toronto. In response to a question, \$1,200 was reported as received from the gymanfa in Cardiff.

John G. Roberts reported on the National planned for Cleveland in 1974. Due to the trip to Swansea, the date would have to be changed to the weekend of Oct. 10. The offer from Cleveland was made only if there was no other bid for 1974. The invitation was accepted. Roberts also commented on the endowment fund and stated that the time would come when we [the Association] would not be able to get a sponsoring committee and the national officers would have to take over.

Jack Meadows reported 35 States represented at the 1971 Salt Lake City National with a total attendance of 1,060. He also reported 26 States represented in 1972 at Chicago with a total attendance of 1,008. It was again stated that many people attend the Sunday gymanfa sessions without paying the registration fee and this is one factor very hard to control.

[The following discussion is a perfect example of the lack of enough institutional memory in the WNGGA. Both the 1959 and 1965 Constitutions contained provisions that the president of the sponsoring organization... shall be ex-officio vice presidents of the Association during their respective terms of office." This provision was removed by the 1971 Constitution. A revised version appeared in the 1978 Constitution and remains in the 1994 version. I do not mean that changes should not be made, but this movement back and forth infers lack of serious thought.]

Emlyn Lloyd suggested that a member of the sponsoring committee should be invited to sit in on BOT meetings not as a member but only to observe. President **Owen Roberts** said this would be taken under consideration. **John Williams** said "we should invite the Ottawa delegate to our meetings as an ex-officio". **Eluned Thomas** said "we should give this more consideration as we could have too many ex-officios attending our meetings". **John Martin** "felt that the delegate of the sponsoring

committee would learn [??] too much from the meetings”. **Gwynn Parri** “also felt we should follow through on this and a delegate should attend our meetings for two years only”. After all this discussion [the wheel was reinvented], a motion was adopted “that the sponsoring committee be invited to send a representative to attend the board meetings as an observer for two years immediately prior to the date of their National. “

John Martin asked to have the discussion concerning the change to the Constitution come before the board at this time. **Jack Meadows** stated that this was tabled indefinitely. **Emlyn Lloyd** “again suggested that positive, confident action, by the board of trustees is necessary in all matters if the Board is to merit and deserve the confidence of the general membership.” **Eluned Thomas** stated ‘that we did not adopt the proposed changes”. President **Owen Roberts** “recognized that these proposed changes were to be taken up by the Board of Trustees and that he did not accept the motion to table”. He [the President] made a motion that the “Constitution Committee be re-activated and come back with a recommendation during the course of the year” which was approved.

The 42nd National Gymanfa Ganu, under the auspices of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held in Toronto on Aug. 31-Sept. 2, 1973. [It is interesting, in view of the tone and content of the minutes at Toronto, that the customary credit line of “under the auspices of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and sponsored by the local organization” was missing.] The Friday Noson Lawen included National Anthems of Great Britain, Canada, and Wales. [It was probably a mistake in printing that there was no singing of the United States National Anthem.] This was the last time *God Save the Queen* was sung

The Grand Ball, with dancing from 9:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. following the Banquet, was a first at a National.

The cover letter, dated 13 January 1974, that forwarded the financial report of the sponsoring committee commented on the size of the split by stating that it was “Not as spectacular as one would have hoped but at least a little better than 1972” and that “It is possible that some folk were saving their money to go to the National in Wales next August”. [In view of other comments in the minutes, a sensitive individual could consider these remarks a less than subtle criticism. Also, as is plain in the minutes, the 1974 gymanfa in Swansea was not considered a National as the 1974 National was held in Cleveland.]

1974

Cleveland

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 2:00 p.m. Friday Oct. 11, 1974. **W. Greenway**, chairman of the sponsoring committee for New York in 1975, reported that there would be a “Wales Week” at the same time as the National and he hoped that the same type promotion could be possible in Philadelphia in 1976. The committee would be sending a fund raising appeal to the WNGGA

mailing list and to all St. David's Societies across the continent. The committee needed \$15,000 to cover \$6,000 for honoraria, \$4,000 for a "civic welcome" and \$5,000 for the Morriston Choir. [This would be the first choir from Wales.] At present, they had about \$550 on hand. It was the committee's wish to be able to present \$5,000 to the WNGGA as a result of the New York National. They hope to bring 500 people from Wales.

To save the handling of hymnals, they would like to insert the 32 hymns, to be sung at the sessions, in the programme. They would charge \$1.00 for the program included in the registration fee which had not as yet been set, and \$.50 of the \$1 would go to the WNGGA to cover royalties.

The approximate cost per page of advertising in the programme would be \$100.

The Noson Lawen would be on Friday night with top rank entertainers, many from Wales. Tickets for the Morriston Concert would probably be \$5.00 In order to raise funds for the WNGGA and to make a mark in New York, the committee thought of striking a medallion. The cost of the die from artist's drawings would be \$5,000. The New York committee thought that the bronze medal would be within the means of everyone but that gold or silver might also be considered. Such an annual medal might become a collector's item. **Greenway** suggested the BOT follow up on this suggestion for the benefit of the endowment fund and that it might be too late for 1975 but he was sure it could be done for 1976.

A letter from the niece of **George Bundy** sent a picture of Bundy who just celebrated his 97th birthday.

[There are two sets of minutes for this meeting. One is missing the second page with sub-paragraphs b) through j) omitted. On the set of minutes that were complete with the missing second page, the underlined portion of the following quote was deleted.] "The vice president [**Gwynn Parri**] produced plaques that he had prepared for presentation to outgoing trustees and stated that he had sufficient number to last about twenty years. He had wished to do this as a personal gift feeling that past Presidents and retiring Trustees had not been recognized for their faithful and dedicated work in the past. Considerable discussion ensued because of strenuous objections from **Mr. D. M. Edwards** and **Mr. Jack Meadows** who insisted that the Executive Committee should have been consulted first". A motion passed, with two members of the board against, that **Parri's** offer be accepted, that presentations be made while supplies last with one being presented the following evening to the retiring president, and that the Secretary keep the supply and a record for the ensuing years.

Again, on the matter of attendance of a representative of the sponsoring committee, a motion carried that it [the proposed addition of representation from the sponsoring committee] would be presented to the members at the annual meeting with the recommendation that it not be incorporated into the Constitution.

The Memorial Service was held, during the Sunday Morning service, with the placing of a rose in a vase in the memory of each deceased member.

A request was received wondering whether the BOT might look favorably on a Western Regional in Portland in 1976. A motion carried in favor under the terms of the Constitution.

As regards the election of trustees, it was recognized that it was the President's prerogative to appoint scrutineers but it was suggested that they should not be members of the Board and it was also agreed that the intent of the voter, as understood by the scrutineers should suffice if a check or cross was incorrectly marked on a ballot. [Shades of Florida 2000.]

Lewis Edwards and **Mair Monkhouse** understood that the Constitution committee was supposed to meet between the 1973 and 1974 annual meetings and Lewis Edwards, a member of the committee, had not been called. Other members were **John G. Roberts** and **Judge Elwyn V. Jenkins**. For some reason, including illness of Jenkins, Edwards was never contacted. Jenkins said he intended to put the Edwards' suggestions before the annual meeting. Edwards felt that the president and/or the secretary should always follow up on the work of a committee.

The 1974 Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, Oct. 12, 1974 in Cleveland. The newly elected Vice President of WAY, **Mrs. Jane Sharpe**, was introduced and reported on progress in WAY.

Tom Edwards "wished to congratulate the recording secretary on the fair reporting of the 1973 Annual Meeting".

President **Owen C. Roberts** reported that some 800 North Americans were in attendance at the successful gymanfa in Swansea.

The Treasurer's report showed a **BOHEP** of \$9,010.66. Donations during the year of \$1,646.06 and \$873.04 interest brought the endowment fund to \$12,920.88.

The treasurer commented that very little money had accrued to the WNGGA in recent years from the sponsoring committees. He took exception to the financial report submitted by the OGGA sponsoring committee as it was not a complete statement and pointed out that the WNGGA required committees to account for every item of income and expenditure. **Tom Edwards** and **Lewis Edwards** stated that the OGGA had received a federal grant, said by Lewis Edwards to be in the neighborhood of \$2,500. Some had been spent on rooms in the Sheraton Four Seasons and some on advertising "Wales Week" in Toronto at that time. None of the money was permitted to be spent outside of Canada. In response to a question, **Lewis Edwards** stated it had been given to the OGGA for a cultural event and that money had been received from the same source for the Niagara Falls Gymanfa. [probably the OGGA annual gymanfa] When asked about a loss of \$1,400, **Tom Edwards** said he was not aware of a loss. **Douglas Jones** felt that, in view of the change from St. Catherines, the WNGGA should appreciate the work of the sponsoring committee and such financial contribution as they had given and leave the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association to settle its own financial affairs.

Vice President **Gwynn J. Parri** made the first presentation of a plaque to **Dr. John R. Jones** who said he was the first "second generation" to retire from the BOT. Jones reminded all that the main purpose of the Association was the Gymanfa Ganu itself. A plaque was also presented to Lewis Edwards for **John Martin** who was unable to attend Cleveland.

Dic Thomas proposed an amendment covering representation of a member of the sponsoring committee on the board and was told that this had been met by the board's action. **Tom Edwards**, seconded by **Douglas Jones**, proposed an amendment to be brought forth at the 1975 annual meeting to fill a vacancy one year in advance of a National by a member of the sponsoring committee and with a vote. This motion, as well as that of Dic Thomas, failed to carry a majority of votes.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 12, 1974. Election of officers resulted in election of **Gwynn Parri** as president. Nominations for Vice President included **Lewis Edwards** and **Eluned Thomas**. President Elect **Parri** asked to explain his plans for the next two years as he felt it had a bearing on the election of the vice president. Parri said he had been concentrating on getting new members and did not feel our publicity was reaching everyone possible. He said "he needed to have someone who thought the same way as himself, though he did not wish to cast a reflection on anyone. He said it was not necessary to have a Canadian. In fact, there were two Canadians and two from the United States who could be of assistance to him. **Mr. Lewis Edwards** and he had got on very well and he felt this could be of benefit to all." The nominees were asked to leave the room while the secret ballot was taken.

With the absence of the recording secretary, there were no minutes taken. However, it is understood that a discussion took place about the eligibility of some of the officers of the Association to vote, namely the vice president, the secretary and the treasurer. **Eluned Thomas** was elected Vice President. **Mair Monkhouse** asked "that it be put on record that she objected to the way the election had been held, which she considered illegal".

John G. Roberts asked permission to invest up to \$10,000 from the endowment fund in high interest bonds or preferred stock and was so authorized.

Ben Haddock "deplored the lengthiness of the Annual Meetings which were held up, he asserted, by dissenting Canadians who are in fact in the minority." Outgoing President **Owen Roberts** commented that "that was the only opportunity for the members to speak and that he had never wished to cut down discussion".

President **Parri** said he would like to see the 50th Anniversary in 1979 celebrated in Niagara Fall, NY. **Lewis Edwards** wondered if the 50 years should be counted from the inception in 1929 or should be the 50th Annual National Gymanfa which would not be until 1981. It was unanimously agreed that the 50th Anniversary should be celebrated in 1979. A motion was adopted to that effect with the National board undertaking the arrangements if a local sponsor could not be found.

It was stated that, with due respect to the New York Committee, there was a belief that the advertisement of the 1975 National in the *Drych* had badly affected attendance at the Cleveland National.

President **Parri** reiterated his intention of bringing out a newspaper, in which he knew he could get advertisements placed by such people as the Wales Tourist Board. **Ben Haddock** suggested that an effort be made to get the mailing list of *Drych*, but it was generally considered that its circulation was

not particularly great or valuable. President **Parri** thought it might be possible to run an advertisement in the *Drych* offering a small gift, say 25¢, for each reply to be used to compile a mailing list.

The 43rd National Gymanfa Ganu, under the auspices of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and sponsored by the Welsh Society and the Women's Welsh Clubs of Cleveland, was held on October 11-13, 1974. [This was the first major deviation from the Labor Day weekend schedule for the National. There was another deviation on 13 Sep 1968. The deviation in Cleveland was caused by a combination of events: failure to get a bid from Cincinnati, the gymanfa in Swansea, Wales, and the unavailability of hotel rooms in Cleveland over the Labor Day weekend.]

The Program listed a Friday Noson Lawen, with a special presentation by the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Recreation Choir. Saturday's tour of the Welsh home in Rocky River, OH was followed with a banquet and entertainment by the Sweet Adelines and Paul Stevens. A bilingual Worship Service on Sunday morning was followed with two sessions of the gymanfa. **Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas** was recognized with a Special Service Commendation in the Program (App. F)

The Program listed 17 trustees, with the correct distribution, and, for the first time, none of them officers. The death of **Emlyn Lloyd** meant there was no immediate past president. The Program also indicated that the eligible ages for membership in WAY were 13 to 30.

1975

New York City

A Very Difficult Meeting

A Special meeting of the Executive Board was held in New York City on August 29, 1975. President **Parri** said that the meeting would be recorded with a tape recorder. A motion carried that these proceedings "should not be recorded in any way". **Eluned Thomas** questioned the presence of **Dr. John Jones** at the meeting since he was not a member of the BOT. The president said Dr. Jones was appointed as a member of his special committee to assist him, along with **Lewis Edwards**, acting as his parliamentarian. It was pointed out that the BOT should have been consulted first and that this action was unconstitutional. A motion by **Eluned Thomas** that the meeting should consist only of the executive committee passed.

Judge Elwyn Jenkins asked the president what was the purpose of the special meeting. The president "replied that due to the opposition and violations from the Secretary, **Mr. Jack Meadows**, he felt that he could not do justice to his office as President of the WNGGA and in his letter to the Secretary, asked for his resignation." **Judge Elwyn Jenkins, John G. Roberts** and **Obie Cobley** said "that the copy of his letter to the secretary they had received made no actual mention of his asking for the resignation of the Secretary." **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** "felt that in a way the letter did so state the intent of this meeting."

The president proceeded under these circumstances. “The Treasurer also did not cooperate or respond to the letters sent to him regarding his position as Treasurer and an invoice he [the president] had sent for travel expenses for 1973 and 1974 was denied payment. The Secretary would not send him [the president] a copy of the membership list or a copy of any communications he [the secretary] had issued. A change of duties was sent to the Secretary requesting an acknowledgment that he did not respond to. Secretary purchased office equipment without consent of the Board of Trustees. He [the President] felt that two people had a tremendous power over the WNGGA.” [This charge was part of the future disagreements that prolonged meetings and led nowhere.]

A very serious discussion by the BOT endeavored to clarify these charges. [The following down to WNGGA was marked in pen “will change in Philly in 1976.] “The Secretary gave a full accounting of the office equipment he obtained. He had been informed about the addressograph machine from a friend in a department store and he purchased 2000 plates for it at a cost of \$20.00 which was paid by him. Also he paid to have this machine fixed to working order. The graphic type machine was purchased at a cost of \$100. At an auction sale, a newer addressograph was purchased through his bid of \$25 and \$75 was paid to move it to his home. He sold the other machine to a church for \$100. This was all accomplished with no expense to the WNGGA.”

The secretary said when these opportunities came up there was no time to ask permission of the BOT, as they [the sellers] demand immediate buying and selling and this was equipment we could not afford to buy. When he received the secretary’s material from **Mr. George Bundy**, it came in all size boxes and everything had to be sorted out which was a long and tedious job.”

“ **Mr. David Edwards** gave a financial accounting in answer to the charges to the office of the Treasurer and said he did not have the authority to pay the expenses submitted by the President for the years 1973 and 1974, while he was Vice President.”

The corrections made to the written minutes by **Eluned Thomas** for the 1974 meetings was [sic] not acceptable and they were to remain as written.

A motion made by **Eluned Thomas** that “we give our Secretary. a vote of confidence at this time” was seconded. Upon discussion, **Lewis Edwards** suggested that a committee be appointed to look into this matter more fully and made a motion, seconded by **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones**, to table the matter and the motion.

Discussion ensued pertaining to the hostility of this meeting and the necessity of a special committee for this situation. **Judge Elwyn Jenkins** said that members have been under unjust scrutiny and he felt the motion to table should be turned down and a vote of confidence given. **Lewis Edwards** withdrew his motion and **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** his second. The feelings so stated by the BOT were to look to the full meaning of the WNGGA and have confidence in one another and look forward toward the years to come. The motion [vote of confidence] carried.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, August 29, 1975 in New York. A motion carried that no recording (tape) be made of this meeting. The secretary reported on his workload in connection with the National in New York.

George Bundy, now 98, is at nursing home where he lays very ill and unable to recognize anyone.

Secretary Meadows reported 6,000 hymnals on hand and that the costs of printing more hymnals and phonetics were much higher. He suggested a charge of \$2.00 per hymnal instead of the standard \$1.00. A discussion addressed the right of the New York Committee to publish their own hymnal thus taking away from the profits of the WNGGA through the sale of their hymnals.

The secretary continued reporting many complaints about the \$3.00 registration fee [caused by the inclusion of \$1 for the program hymnal]. A motion carried that it be made a matter of record that sponsoring committees should not take upon themselves to print hymnals unless they have been presented to the music committee for approval.

Ann Davies Thomas questioned the \$600 gift to **George Bundy** due to his present condition and suggested holding off of any more payments until they were needed for future expenses. A motion to this extent was approved..

As regards the invoices submitted by the president, for fares to Toronto (1973) and New York (1974) while he was vice president, **Eluned Thomas** said it was her recollection that only the expenses of the president and secretary were paid. A motion carried to table this matter until records could be checked.

Total assets in the endowment fund were \$14,012.12. Total assets included -\$4,062.12 in a savings account, \$5,050.00 in a Pacific Telephone & Telegraph ten-year \$5,000 note paying 9.10% interest and \$4,900.00 in a Cincinnati Gas and Electric first mortgage bond of \$5,000 paying 9.15% interest.

President Parri received a letter from Past President **Douglas Jones** with amendments to the constitution for each article. These were rejected in that they did not conform to the Charter [Constitution] of the WNGGA. **Douglas Jones** also presented documents pertaining to the legality of our Charter [Constitution] as a corporation. Due to length of these letters **Jones** was permitted to enter the meeting and given 3 minutes to clarify what he was presenting. Motions carried that this matter be referred for study for one year and that copies of these letters from Douglas Jones be provided the trustees. President Parri said that he had received some amendments to the Constitution sent to him personally within the allotted time but these were not submitted to the BOT. These would be presented again.

A new newsletter, named *Ninnau*, would be sent out in October to anyone wishing to subscribe. [This was the beginning of *Ninnau* which, as this is written, celebrated its 28th year of existence in November 2003.]

Jack Meadows mentioned that it had always been the custom for the President of the WNGGA to open the afternoon session and the Secretary of the WNGGA to call the evening session to order. He had not been given this courtesy for the past two years.

President **Parri** read a letter from the NY sponsoring committee inviting members of BOT and officers to be on the platform for the evening session. This invitation was accepted.

The 1975 Annual General Meeting was held at 9:30 a.m., Aug. 30, 1975.

Only 1,355 hymnals were sold and the secretary felt this was due to the hymnals put out by the New York committee. There were approximately 6,000 hymnals on hand, about a three-year supply.

Morris Wrench asked if there had ever been a WAY gymna. The president said that Pittsburgh held the first one during April.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 30, 1975, in New York City.

Representatives of the 1977 Ottawa committee reported on their plans. **Jack Meadows** explained the hardships of getting such things as letterheads, envelopes, and hymnals across the border.

An explanation was offered on why the New York committee printed their hymnal. They felt that showing the hymnal would be a better way of gaining admission to the sessions and controlling registrations.

Eluned Thomas remarked that a committee was needed to study **Douglas Jones'** papers and asked for legal advice. **John G. Roberts** stated that the corporation was formed in Ohio when **George Bundy** was Secretary. It has been recorded with the Secretary of State and filed with the Internal Revenue Service for tax exemption. He remarked that filing a blanket exemption with the Federal Government covering the whole organization, would still not cover Canada's participation [for tax exemption purposes]. [I don't understand this comment. The tax exemption in the United States was never only applicable in Ohio.] An **Eluned Thomas** motion carried that a one-man committee be appointed to investigate Douglas Jones' correspondence and report to the BOT, preferably by correspondence, during the year. Her suggestion that **John G. Roberts** be so appointed was also accepted.

Eluned Thomas made a motion that the officers of the Association as shown in the Constitution: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer be permitted to vote at all meetings of the BOT. The president ruled this motion was out of order. [I could never find the authority for the president's ruling and no one challenged the ruling. The attempt to deprive the officers, all members of the Association, defies my understanding. **Robert's Rules of Order** clearly states that the president or presiding officer has the right to vote if he is a member of the organization. If applicable to the president, this had also to be applicable to the other officers. Without being present at the meetings,

the real motive for attempts to deprive officers of a vote can only be assumed. It well may have been related to the charge that there was too much control on the part of the secretary and the treasurer.]

Lewis Edwards reported that the Constitution committee had been active during the year but their report was not ready for presentation. He motioned that the item just presented (voting of officers) be referred to that committee for their consideration and the motion carried. **John G. Roberts** stated that officers who were elected from the Board and who have not resigned as a Trustee could have a vote.[This latter statement defies the logic that the only qualification for voting was membership in the organization. The Constitution was never clear regarding vacating a trustee position upon election as an officer. This was an automatic action in later years when the vacancy was filled, at the earliest opportunity, with a replacement trustee.]

The BOT was asked for an opinion regarding changing the name of WAY due to Canadians joining. Someone thought that changing the name to Youth of the North American Continent would embrace both Canada and America. [The absence of Welsh had to be an oversight.] The opinion was that the name WAY was well known and to change it now could effect [sic] the group.

The 44th National Gymanfa, sponsored by The St. David's Society of the State of New York was held on Aug. 29-31, 1975 in New York City

The Program listed a Thursday registration, a Welsh Crafts Fair (also on Friday), and a Welsh-American Business Luncheon. The Friday schedule included a Ladies Program; the **David Ponting** Show: Dylan Thomas " THE MAN AND THE MYTH" with Welsh comedienne and singer **Beryl Hall**, pianist **Betty Williams** and a Noson Lawen. The Program noted that the Contemporary Welsh Art Exhibition at the Union Carbide Building was closed Aug 30-31 and Sept. 1. Saturday's events included a Bicentennial Luncheon, honoring **Francis Lewis**, signer of the Declaration of Independence, with The Rt. Rev. **E. Stephen Thomas**, the Bishop of Llandaff, Wales as the principal guest. The Morryston Orpheus Male Choir with its conductor, **Lyn Harry**, was the first choir from Wales to sing during a National Gala Concert. There was a note that stated that entrance to the Noson Lawen, concert, and luncheon was by ticket only. [**Someone** penciled in style show, and banquet also.] Admission to the Gymanfa was by registration only. The 56 page Program carried 24 pages containing 34 ads

Havard Gregory, from London, England, was master of ceremonies during a Noson Lawen that included entertainment by the Ottawa Octet, Pocono Boy Singers, Ottawa Dancers, Ottawa Girls Quartet, The Harmony Adventure, Morryston Octet, **Jane Anne Davies Thomas** Recital and Welsh Melody.

Rev. Dr. Gwyn Walters was the guest preacher and, for his first time, Secretary, **Jack Meadows** conducted the Memorial Service during the Church Service.

Introductions of the officers and directors of the St. David's Society of the State of New York were made during the afternoon session of the Gymanfa and of the officers and trustees of the

WNGGA during the evening session. No national anthems (US or Canadian) were sung with the Welsh National Anthem being sung closing the evening session.

.The 1975 New York National was part of, but separate from, Wales Week sponsored by the Development Corporation of Wales.

The financial report for the 1975 National showed \$37,811 in **receipts**, \$34,006 in **disbursements** for a **balance** of \$3,805 with **60% (\$2,282)** and a \$250 contribution (for loss of sales of WNGGA hymnal because of the sponsoring committee's printing of hymnals) going to the WNGGA treasury. The Morryston Choir fee was \$10,000.

1976

Philadelphia

Longest Report Because of Contention

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 2:38 p.m., Friday Sept. 3, 1976 in Philadelphia. A question arose concerning the change in the time of the meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 2:20 p.m. **Catherine Dodd** was not available for this meeting and President **Parri** asked **Lewis Edwards** to act as recording secretary for the meeting.

The president mentioned his dissatisfaction with the treatment of the New York committee with specific reference to their Gymanfa Ganu Hymnal. Vice President **Thomas** stated that in her opinion, the treatment of the committee was excellent. A point of order was raised by **Obie Cobley** who reminded the Board that visitors were present. **Mair Monkhouse** agreed with the president's comments.

A motion carried "That we buy a bond for \$5,000, with security, [for the endowment fund] if we can get a better interest rate that we are presently obtaining from the savings account." As of Aug. 16, 1976, the endowment fund had assets valued at \$17,238.05.

The cost of hiring the Arts Centre in Ottawa with its seating capacity of 2,400 was questioned. Cost of hiring the centre cut into the 60% due the national treasury. Registration at previous Nationals was: Salt Lake City-1120, Chicago-955, Toronto-1368, Cleveland-450, and New York City-1404.

Mair Monkhouse was disturbed about the continuing emphasis on the dollar bill. She said we should encourage Ottawa instead of requesting them to consider making changes for the sake of saving a few dollars. Treasurer **David Edwards** remarked "that good planning should realize money".

President **Parri** drew attention to items in the minutes of 1975 meetings. Discussion of payment for his travel expenses when vice president led to a motion by **Jack Meadows** and seconded that as the bill had been paid the matter be declared closed. President **Gwynn Parri** ruled the motion unacceptable.

Discussion of **Douglas Jones'** contention regarding the legality of the Association in conducting business led to a motion to invite him into the meeting. The motion was defeated (5 for, 6

against, and 2 abstentions). Another motion that a committee be appointed to meet with Jones and report back was adopted.

The last run of hymnals was made in 1972 with 10,000 copies printed at a cost of 49¢ each. These were sold for 90¢ each to organizations and \$1.00 to individuals.

The secretary's difficulty getting an accounting from the Swansea committee for the 1974 Gymanfa Ganu was left to his discretion.

The 1976 Annual General Meeting was held at 9:15 Am., Saturday, Sept. 4, 1976. **George Bundy** was hospitalized and now reached 99.

Ann Davies Thomas gave a report on the 1976 7th Annual Regional Gymanfa Ganu with a balance of \$458.35. Through some financial accounting, \$197.72 was added to the balance for **Gwynn Parri's** guest room, with that amount then deducted from the 60% due to the national treasury (\$393.64- \$197.72) with \$195.92 going to the national treasury.

Roderick Owen, President of WAY, reported WAY now had 150-160 active members with the newsletter going to 130 households.

President **Parri** stated he had not appointed a nominating committee. **Dic Thomas**, speaking in Welsh, asked questions: Who is holding what office? Why do we elect Trustees?; Officers are elected from within the Trustees so are these officers both Officers and Trustees? and concluded that Officers should be elected by the general membership. The president replied that the Constitution, which is in process of review, was being followed. [There was always confusion about officers and trustees serving as both. Finally, the 1978 Constitution eliminated the confusion by stating that if elected as officers they would resign as a trustee with replacements elected at the next AGM.]

Dic Thomas commented on Article XI, page 8 of the Constitution [processing of amendments to the Constitution] stating that it was undemocratic in that the membership cannot govern. **Douglas Jones** again mentioned the question of the validity of the Association. He asked "Is the motto of the Association "Until Death do us part?" and concluded with the question "How long before we change the guard?" Members commented in general on the above and two speakers spoke strongly in favor of placing young people on the BOT. [No one reminded all that the Association is governed by its BOT elected by the membership.]

Douglas Jones stated that the Association is incorporated in the State of Ohio and can function in Ohio and nowhere else. [This statement was so grossly untrue that one wonders why the officers and trustees put up with this misinformation.] He said that in his opinion the Association was being run by people from Ohio. **Jack Meadows** rose in rebuttal. Douglas Jones said that he was well acquainted with the historical background of the Association, but contended "that it was not areas and not individuals that gave strength to the Gymanfa Ganu. He was concerned with the legality of Incorporation under terms of what was being discussed, but accepted the fact that we should now look at this Gymanfa Ganu."

The president announced that in the trustee election one was needed from Canada, three from US East, and one from US West. In response to a question from the floor, the answer was that Florida is included in Eastern US. Six were nominated from the East and, in response to question from **Lewis Edwards**, the secretary said all were eligible for election. On a point of order, **Roy Morris** asked if the nominees could stand so they could be seen and "If they are not here do we know if they accept nomination?" Following a discussion that included past precedents, it was agreed that those not in attendance were not eligible and one name was removed from the nominations for the East. **Tom Edwards**, on a point of order, questioned the Constitutional stipulations on that decision. **Marion Carr** rose on a point of procedure, stating that as the secretary had earlier stipulated that all were eligible, all should remain on the ballot. Regardless, the five, not six, remained on the ballot with **Helen Richards**, **Dr. Islyn Thomas**, and **William Griffith** being elected for the East. There were three nominees for the West, one whom was not present (**Idwal Parri**) and thus not eligible, with a tie vote between two: **Emmeline Davies** and **Douglas C. Jones**. After consulting the Constitution, the president announced another ballot with only Jones and Davies on the ballot. **Douglas Jones** stated that there was nothing in the Constitution to cover a tie vote, but since he was a candidate he was satisfied to abide by the president's decision.

As a result of the secret ballot, the president announced that a greater number of votes had been cast than had been cast of the first occasion. He further stated that the number of votes cast was greater than the number present at the meeting. The secretary explained that some members present cast a vote both for themselves and for member societies of the Association for which they had been appointed voting delegates. **Douglas Jones** said that there was no mention of this in the Constitution, and suggested that this was not in order. [This is a good example of poor work on the Constitution. From the beginning, and in the 1935 and 1958 Constitutions, organization delegates were authorized to vote even before individual members were granted the right to vote. The voting privilege and procedures for organization's voting were not clearly stated in the 1971 Constitution that did not say much at all about voting. The 1978 Constitution again addressed the eligibility of organizations to vote. No attempt to look at the original intent was apparent.] The minutes state that "At this point, recording of speakers was not possible for several minutes". The President announced the result of the vote as being in favor of **Emmeline Davies**. **Mr. Marion Carr** rose on a point of privilege, "saying that this was a truly horrendous meeting, with sadly very little, if any, participation by young people. With business that was before the meeting, it should have been over in fifteen minutes".

Ellis Jones rose on a point of order, stating "that representatives of several organizations had not been informed that they could arrange a vote on behalf of a Member organization". Mr. Jones then moved a motion that carried "that the vote count returned by the Scrutineers on the second ballot be accepted as the result". **Emmeline Davies** was declared duly elected. **Tal Griffiths** was elected Trustee for Canada.

Tal Griffiths remarked that the endowment fund was established for Hymnology and suggested that the funds be used for printing the new hymnal. **John G. Roberts** said that the principal could not be used but the income could be made available. The income during 1975 was \$1,164.18.

The motion was reworded “No more of the present hymnal (any version) be printed and that a new Hymnal be acquired”. The corrected motion was accepted by the mover and the seconder.

Morris Wrench stated he was disturbed to know that a new hymnal was ready- “By whose permission? I am a member of the Committee.” **Tom Edwards** stated he understood that authority had been given to the Music Committee to proceed in the way that they have. **Douglas Jones** agreed and asked for clarification from the secretary with regard to the number of hymnals on hand and cost of previous printings. Secretary **Meadows** replied “We are missing the point. We have 3,300 on hand, and if we order a new one they become obsolete”. He supplied the following costs for each 10,000 hymnals purchased:

1948	\$2,612.06	1950	\$1,735.50
1952	\$1,922.85	1954	\$2,009.85
1959	\$2,385.00	1963	\$2,830.00
1968	\$3,610.00	1973	\$4,900.00

He estimated that the cost for a similar number [10,000] would be approximately \$5,500.00. **Tal Griffiths** suggested that the present stock could be tided over by including printed sheets. At the request of the president the motion was again read and carried.

Douglas Jones raised the matter of correct management of a Corporation, stating that a Corporation is entitled to management as prescribed. He stated “that all the votes taken today were illegal”. He then moved, seconded by **Cynthia Jones**, that a special meeting be held today “to clarify and rectify the illegal business that was conducted this morning”. This motion was defeated.

Marion Carr asked if the proposed new Constitution would include rules governing elections. At the request of the president, Chairman of the Constitution committee, **Lewis Edwards**, replied in the affirmative.

Dic Thomas requested that those responsible not include statements with respect to “tax free status” as this does not apply to Canada.

Tom Edwards expressed his compliments to the President and commended **Mr. Parri** for his conduct during his term of office and particularly for his Chairmanship of today’s most difficult meeting. **Douglas Jones** echoed Mr. Edwards’ sentiments, and apologized to the president for any action that might have appeared to have been taken by his in opposition to the future of the Gymanfa Ganu.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at, 2:33 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 4, 1976, in Philadelphia. The president called for election of officers. **Tal Griffiths** requested clarification “Is the election from members of the Board only”. The President. replied that this was not necessarily so. The President ruled that only members of the Board of Trustees are allowed to vote. There was discussion regarding

the Constitution wording on the eligibility to vote and the President again ruled that members of the Board only would be allowed to vote, and that the executive committee members would not vote. [This is another instance where poor Constitution work caused some unusual results. The 1965 Constitution that established the BOT included the officers as members of the BOT and, obviously, eligible to vote. The 1971 Constitution removed the officers from the BOT for some reason. It named the president as chairman and presiding officer and eligible to vote. The duties of the executive committee remained so great and it was authorized to act between meetings. It is inconceivable that officers, eligible to vote during executive committee meetings, would, except for the president, be denied a vote during board meetings. This was corrected in the 1978 Constitution which returned all officers to the BOT with all having equal voting rights.] David Edwards stated that when officers were elected to office they were asked to resign from trusteeship. [The minutes will not bear this out.]

David Edwards continued by offering his resignation as treasurer, and this was accepted with regret, by the president. **Obie Cobby** stated that the acceptance of the resignation should be decided by the BOT. This was refuted by **Tal Griffiths** and by the President. [AUTHORITY???]

A. R. Isaac asked if it was in order for someone outside the Board to count the votes and the retiring president replied that there were no restrictions in this regard. **Lewis Edwards** questioned any ruling on the eligibility of candidates being present referring to the ruling of eligibility made at the annual meeting. Following discussions, the retiring president ruled that nominees for office could be absent for specific reasons, and therefore they are eligible.

Prior to the nominations for treasurer, **Jack Meadows** spoke about **David Edwards** who he has known for years, who is well qualified as a CPA and continued “We all get ruffled at times. Maybe Dave is thinking it over, and if he is nominated and elected he may serve again”. **A. R. Isaac** stated that Mr. Edwards feels badly about the vote that he feels he was removed. A five-minute recess was called so that Isaac could contact Mr. Edwards. **David Edwards** was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

It was moved by **Rev. Kenneth Jones** and seconded by **Ben Haddock** and approved that a special vote of thanks be extended to **Mr. Parri**. Mr. Parri thanked those present and continued by saying that the Gymanfa Ganu belongs to all the people. Some, he felt, had had their rights denied, but that with a great many people attending meetings and showing an interest in matters, this should be rectified.

A motion to have the president or vice president of WAY asked to attend trustees meetings as an observer without voting rights was amended to change “observer” to “ex officio” and adopted. A further amendment “or their appointee” was added and carried. A question “Would this eliminate Board liaison with WAY? was replied to by the president in the affirmative. A motion carried that the Board’s liaison with WAY be continued and **Mair Monkhouse** was elected as liaison with WAY.

A committee of three met with **Douglas Jones** over his concerns with the incorporation. It was the committee’s consensus that there was sufficient reason to be concerned with our position on Incorporation. **D. M. Edwards** stated that a judge and a lawyer had been satisfied the all was in order. **John Roberts** said that he had been given the opportunity to examine the documents in Mr. Jones’

possession and there appeared to be differences in copies supplied to him earlier. A motion was made “That the Board consider employing an outside corporation lawyer or firm of business consultants so that we can settle the matter once and for all and know that we are operating legally”. President **Eluned Thomas** said she required this matter settled this year. An amendment changing the words “consider employing” to “engage” carried. The motion as amended was defeated. A motion “That we decide to seek the services of a competent attorney or consulting firm to decide whether we are operating legally in the USA and Canada and to set it up so we can operate legally” carried. Questions were raised with regard to possible costs involved in acceptance of the previous motion and a new motion was offered “That the President appoint a committee of three people with power to act on behalf of the Board and the membership in this matter, and that the committee be comprised of **Vice President Dr. D. L. Mandry**, as Chairman, and **Mr. D. M. Edwards** and **Dr. Islyn Thomas** as members”. The President questioned naming of personnel in the motion as the motion stated that the president would appoint a committee. It was accepted that the Board does have the right to include names in such a motion and the motion carried.

President **Eluned Thomas** referred to the constant references in Association minutes to the hymnal, and stated that nothing was being accomplished. **Elizabeth Griffiths** commented on her dislike of our present hymnal because of the removal of folk songs. Discussion on the hymnal led to a motion “That a new Hymnal shall be brought out in time for the Association’s 50th Anniversary” that was adopted.

Motions carried that the president, secretary, and treasurer be authorized, in addition to **John G. Roberts**, to sign checks for the endowment fund.

A motion passed that \$250 be allotted per year for advertising in *Y Drych* and that the advertising be placed at the discretion of the President.

Lewis Edwards objected to the way in which Vancouver was being accepted, mentioning that an invitation correctly extended by the OGGA in 1975 had been rejected by the secretary’s statement that it should be extended in writing. Lewis Edwards wanted it placed on record that he did not consider that the invitations had been correctly handled. **Tal Griffiths** wished it placed on record that he would abstain from voting between Vancouver and Ontario. **Ben Haddock** again complained about the fact that discussion was not allowed and, in reply to a question from **Mair Monkhouse**, stated that we should only go to Canada once every five years because of the population. The secretary said that they were still looking for a sponsoring committee for 1979 in Niagara Falls, NY and urged those from Niagara Falls, NY and Buffalo to consider sponsorship.

Secretary Meadows presented the following figures for Canadian registration at past Nationals: New York-91, Cleveland –41, Toronto –770, Chicago-21, Salt Lake City-93. Canada had 515 names [not all members] registered with the secretary. In response to a question from **Lewis Edwards**, the secretary stated that he had 900 members registered from the USA.

President **Eluned Thomas** had a letter from **Douglas Jones** in which he objected to the proceedings at the 1976 Annual Meeting, particularly with regard to numbers voting. **Mair**

Monkhouse, in charge of credentials at that meeting, said that several members had arrived after the report of the credentials committee was accepted. The President stated those procedures should be reconsidered prior to the 1977 AGM. President Thomas stated that those organizations that have voting privileges should have a letter officially clarifying their position. The President went on record as being in favor of organizations having a vote. [Another example of the need for an institutional memory.]

Mair Monkhouse said she had been asked by several at the meeting for ballots to complete for absent relatives and friends, none had been issued by her, but she considered this to be highly irregular.

Secretary **Meadows** commented on the large size of the mailing list and the difficulty in pruning it. **Lewis Edwards** suggested that any examination of mailing privileges should include those that applied in Canada.

The secretary brought the attention of the Board to several thousand cards now in his possession that had been prepared by **George Bundy** under his “Welsh Titles” project and asked the Board for instructions on their disposition. [The Purpose statement in the 1959 and 1965 Constitutions referred to “Welsh Titles.” There was no reference to “Welsh Titles” in the 1971 Constitution. In response to a question, the secretary said the main purpose of the project was a simple compilation of a list of Welsh Titles [publications] available in the USA. The cards contained valuable information and **Rev. Kenneth Jones** asked permission to view the cards before any action is taken to dispose of them. **Lewis Edwards’** motion that the “List of Welsh Titles” be offered to Aberystwyth University after Rev. Jones has a look at the list was adopted [I could not find any information on the final disposition of “Welsh Titles.”]

The 45th National Gymanfa, sponsored by the Welsh Society of Philadelphia and The Women’s Welsh Clubs of Philadelphia, was held on Sept. 2-5, 1976 in Philadelphia.

Even though the name had been changed to Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association in 1971, the Program still carried the note on the front cover “Under the auspices of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada”

Don Mills was listed as a vice president reflecting his status as the co-chairman for the 1977 National in Ottawa. President Eluned Thomas was still listed as a trustee.

[The Constitution always clearly stated that the BOT was made up of officers and 17 trustees. Even the 1971 Constitution stated “the makeup of the BOT, exclusive of officers, should follow as near as possible to the following pattern (geographic distribution) implying that the officer members of the BOT need not be distributed geographically. While reviewing the 1971 Constitution, I found another error, the statement that the Endowment Fund was established by the BOT in 1961 rather than its true establishment by a resolution during the 1959 AGM.]

The Program listed registration and a welcoming tea for Thursday. An all day historical tour of Philadelphia and a Bicentennial Banquet were scheduled for Friday. Saturday was filled with a

ceremony at the Welsh Plaque on the East Side of the Philadelphia City Hall, a “Community Sing” at John Wanamaker’s Store, and a Noson Lawen-Historical Pageant. Two church services and two sessions of the gymanfa followed on Sunday.

A three act drama Y GWIR YN ERBYN Y BYD (THE TRUTH AGAINST THE WORLD) with a Prologue “The Legend of Prince Madog” and acts entitled “Beginning”, “Revolution” and “War and Peace” was presented during the Noson Lawen. Finales were “America the Beautiful” and “Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau” by audience and cast.

Jack Meadows conducted the Memorial during both church services. **Rev. Galbraith Hall Todd’s** sermon “THE WELSH HERITAGE IN CHRISTIAN AND AMERICAN HISTORY” was later reproduced and distributed by the Welsh Guild of the Philadelphia Arch Street Presbyterian Church.

Gwynn Parri and **Jack Meadows**, who issued the Call to Order for the afternoon and evening sessions respectively, were also listed as Presidents of the Session. No national anthems (US or Canadian) were sung during the sessions although the Welsh National Anthem was sung closing the evening session. Soloists were baritone **Nelson L. Llewellyn** for the afternoon session and **Iona Jones** in the evening. **Francis [Frances] Williams** conducted the afternoon choir that sang *Let There Be Music* and **Morris Wrench** conducted it in the evening when it sang *And The Glory of The Lord* from *Messiah*.

The Program was funded by a grant from the Philadelphia ‘76, The Bicentennial Agency of the City of Philadelphia.

The financial report of the 1976 venue committee showed **total income** of \$28,498.68 (including \$6,980-banquet, \$5,054.90-contributions, \$3,883-registrations, \$3,880-funding from Philadelphia ‘76, \$2,210-tours, \$1,696.20-Noson Lawen, and \$1,445-advertising). **Disbursements** were \$19,431.72 (including \$5,785.61-banquet, \$1,824.23-Noson Lawen, \$1,452.35-Program). **Net proceeds** of \$9,056.96 were divided with the WNGGA 60% share coming to \$5,434.18.

1977

Ottawa

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sept. 2, 1977 in Ottawa. The death of **John G. Roberts** was recognized, as was all the work he had done serving two terms as president, a trustee, and chairman of the endowment fund.

Elizabeth Griffiths reported 1,800 registrants at Philadelphia even though there had been a number of cancellations because of deaths at the American Legion Convention from Legionnaires Disease. She turned the sum of \$5,434.18 (60%) over to the treasurer, the largest amount to date. A motion carried thanking Elizabeth Griffiths and her committee and stating “that they have set the standard for the future”.

Donna Davies reported on the Western Regional in San Francisco. Over 300 attended for the afternoon session. The Committee turned over \$195.92 to the national treasurer.

President **Eluned Thomas** stated that the report of the 1974 Gymanfa in Swansea was received. While it was not a financial success, it received excellent support from the Wales Tourist Board and was a memorable event.

Tal Griffiths questioned a ruling of the State of Ohio that all non-profit organizations shall be assessed \$25 if their bank balances at the end of the year are more than \$50,000. The WNGGA will have to submit a report.

Treasurer **Dave Edwards** reported a **BOHEP** of \$21,914.42. The endowment fund **BOHBP** was \$6,838.70; **receipts** were \$2,134.27 (including \$834 in contributions, \$912.50 in bond interest and bank interest of \$387.77) for a **BOHEP** of \$8,972.97 plus \$10,000 in bonds.

Some discussion of the purpose of the endowment fund led to stating the need to be sure we use it for proper purposes, that the incorporation states the WNGGA is an educational organization, and uses must be as directed by the BOT. The endowment fund could someday make the Association independent of any sponsoring committee and then we may not need one. [Always the dream.] No action was taken although it was suggested that some of the interest income could be used for scholarships. The late **John G. Roberts** paid all expenses incident to the endowment fund during his term as endowment treasurer. **Judge Elwyn Jenkins** accepted the chairmanship of the endowment fund with **David Edwards** and **Owen Roberts** as members of the committee.

David Mandry presented his report on the legal status of the WNGGA. [Because of the relevance of Dr. Mandry's report, I have repeated it exactly as it appeared in the minutes.] He " has reached the conclusion, after his research, that we are legal. He consulted a lawyer in Cleveland who looked up the Ohio court records at Columbus, Ohio, where our Association is incorporated. He has a copy of the Incorporation that was amended and updated in 1975. Dr. Mandry stated that we can do just about anything that we want to do just so the business is transacted at the Annual Meeting or by the Board of Trustees. The laws of the State of Ohio say we can meet on a date that we designate and any place that we designate. **Tal Griffiths** suggested this does not cover Canada. **Mandry** repeated his remarks.

During the annual meeting, Dr. Mandry went on further to say that "the services of corporation lawyer were obtained and he was able to trace all of this for us. ...The code states that the WNGGA is able to meet any place the members want to meet so long as this body determines the meeting place; we can call ourselves by any name that we wish so long as this body approves the name. These two points were brought up and as far as the committee has been able to determine, the WNGGA is legal." No motion was required for this report.

Rev. Kenneth Jones, Chairman of the Hymnal Committee reported on meetings and the committee feels that we need an entirely new hymnal. He would like the BOT to consider a special financial appeal to finance the new hymnal. Motion to that effect brought forth an amendment from **Tal Griffiths** asking the committee to return in one year's time with estimates of costs after which the

Committee could proceed. **Rev. Jones** said that a delay of one year would make it impossible to get the hymnal out. The motion to delay was defeated. In response to a question, **Rev. Jones** said that folk songs would not be included and we need to do more with folk songs. The treasurer said that funds as a result of this solicitation would be placed in a separate account and that the appeal should come from the president with committee membership shown thereon. The original motion of **Rev. K. Jones** was adopted.

Cynthia Jones, President of WAY, reported 134 active members. She is not sure of how many inactive members there are. She said WAY needs a generous contribution to keep their newsletter going (\$80 for each issue, three a year = \$240) A motion was made and seconded to contribute \$500 per year. An amendment to reduce contribution to \$300 was defeated. The original motion was changed to \$500 for this year, subject to examination for next year, and carried. Another motion carried to take the \$500 out of interest earned in endowment fund.

The 1977 Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 3, 1977 in Ottawa. The secretary reported 952 life members in the WNGGA (including 856 American, 77 Canadian, 10 churches/societies and 9 overseas members. The secretary also reported on his visit to **George Bundy**, on his 100th birthday, in a nursing home in Carlisle, PA.

Dr. Mandry, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, reported that his committee met and determined that the WNGGA was legal. The State Code of Ohio defines the regulations that must be followed. The Code states that the WNGGA is able to meet any place the members want to meet so long as this body (BOT) determines the meeting place; we can call ourselves by any name that we want so long as this body approves the name.

Norman Williams reported on the work of the Constitution Committee. **Douglas Jones** presented two proposed amendments for the committee to consider.

Be it resolved that the Articles of Incorporation of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association Incorporated be amended to specify our correct designation, purpose, and its reflection upon the cultural well-being of the Welsh people in compliance with the State, Provincial, and Federal laws of the USA and Canada respectively.

Be it resolved that the 1971 Constitution and By-Laws of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association Incorporated be amended in total to comply with our Articles of Incorporation, State, Provincial, and Federal laws of the USA and Canada.

A motion carried to turn the proposed amendments over to the Constitution Committee. A copy of the Articles of Incorporation, supplied by **Douglas Jones**, was also turned over to the Constitution Committee.

Emmaline Davies reported that there were 180 voting members registered and 5 organizations eligible to vote. A question arose over the eligibility of organizations to vote. Since the rule is that

organizations bringing an authorization for someone to vote may vote, the integrity of this organization will be seriously questioned if the vote is denied. A motion by **Lewis Edwards**, seconded by **Douglas Jones**, to authorize the representatives to vote carried.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, 1977. The President had spoken to **Mrs. Gwyneth Crysler** and **Lewis Edwards** and they have both agreed to work together as Co-Chairmen of the Niagara Falls, NY 1979 Committee. **Mair Monkhouse** expressed dissatisfaction at the way arrangements with the Hilton Hotel and the Convention Bureau at Niagara Falls, NY had been handled. She felt others, in addition to the three members of the executive committee and **Owen Roberts**, should have been invited to meet there on April 30. A motion led to the appointment of Mrs. Crysler and Lewis Edwards as Co-Chairmen for the 1979 Anniversary National. **Edwards** suggested it be called the Golden Anniversary Gymanfa and **Jack Meadows** suggested the Golden Jubilee and this was agreed upon.

A motion for the adoption of revised Rules and Regulations of the Association (for sponsoring organizations) with corrections made at this meeting (copy attached to minutes) carried.

A motion to become a member of Y Cymry ar Wasgar [once again] was adopted.

The 46th National Gymanfa Ganu sponsored the Ottawa Welsh Society was held in Ottawa on Sept. 2-4, 1977. The cover contained the statement that the National “was under the auspices of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada” in spite of the fact that the name had been changed to WNGGA in 1971.

The Program listed a Friday evening Noson Lawen. There was a Saturday Celebration Luncheon and Gala Concert with the R.C.M.P. Band and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society. A Bilingual Church Service and two sessions of the Gymanfa were held on Sunday. **Secretary Meadows** conducted the Memorial Service during the Sunday Church Service.

No printed program for the Gala Concert was found, but for the first time there was a Compere, **John Morgan**. [I could not find compere defined in any dictionary other than in *Y Geiriadur Mawr*. In Welsh it was Arweinydd, a leader, instructor, a guide or director never a master of ceremonies.] **Kenneth R. Moore** was the Conductor of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band and **Roy Morris** was the Conductor of the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society.

Eluned Thomas and **Jack Meadows** were President of the afternoon and evening sessions of the Gymanfa, respectively. There were no national anthems (US or Canadian) although the Welsh National Anthem was sung closing the sessions.

The financial statement from the Ottawa venue committee, in Canadian dollars, reported **income** of \$39,284.16 and **expenses** of \$37,426.56 for a **balance** of \$1,857.60 The 60% share to the WNGGA was \$1,114.56, less Canadian Exchange, for \$975.24 U.S.

[After all these pages and all of this talk and disagreement, it's amazing how, with a few small exceptions, little was reported on what was being done to increase the membership of the Association. It appears as though membership was left entirely in the hands of the secretary.]

1978

Minneapolis

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 1, 1978 in Minneapolis. **Secretary Emeritus George Bundy**, who for 34 years dedicated himself to the advancement of the National Gymanfa Ganu and its Association, died at age 100, on January 22 1978, in Carlisle, PA. Other deceased members **Colonel E. G. Thomas, Mary Samuel, and Francis [Frances] Williams** were remembered for their years of faithful service given so generously to the Association.

A copy of the Ottawa financial report [See App. L for the 1978 financial report.] led **William G. Griffiths** to say "he was deeply concerned about some of the items but that he realized the expenses had been incurred and there was nothing we could do about it now but that he felt the National Association should come up with some guidelines for future committees to be followed in regard to the kind of expenses to be incurred. [A review of the report revealed some expenses not normally visible in other reports such as National Arts Center ushers, technical facilities and performing rights, in addition to rent, and reimbursements to volunteers. However, recognition should have been accorded the receipt of significant grant money from the Canadian Federal and Ontario Provincial governments. A motion carried, with two opposing votes, to appoint a committee to prepare a set of guidelines for the guidance of future sponsoring committees.

During the discussion prior to the above approved motion, **Lewis Edwards** questioned the mechanics of such a restrictive recommendation. **Al Isaac** raised the point "that since the Ottawa people were not present, we should perhaps wait action until they could present their side". **Mair Monkhouse** said "we ought to avoid doing something which would require the chairman of a sponsoring committee having to request permission from the National Executive Committee before incurring expenses." The president replied that "it had not been customary for sponsoring committees to consult with the National Executive Board. **David Edwards** questioned if the Ottawa report should be distributed at the Annual Meeting. A motion that the report not be distributed carried with three opposed.

Norman Williams presented the report of the Constitution Committee (**Donna Davies, Emmaline Davies, Dr. Ellis Jones, Owen Roberts and Dr. Islyn Thomas**) on the proposed new Constitution. A motion was adopted that the proposed new Constitution, with changes made during this meeting, be recommended for adoption at the annual meeting. **Tal Griffiths** and **Lewis Edwards** opposed this motion.

Rev. Kenneth Jones, Chairman of the Hymnal Committee, reported on the work being done, that the hymnal would have a new cover and be spiral bound. Folk songs would not be included. He reported on the death of **Francis [Frances] Williams**. She was to have been the editor of the hymnal.

The following was extracted from the 1972 Program for Chicago where she conducted both sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu.

Frances Williams— Born in Caernarvonshire, Wales. Came to the United States when a small child.

Early music education (on scholarships) in Cornish School of Music, Seattle, Washington. Won scholarships to Juilliard Graduate School of Music, New York City, in Composition, Conducting and Piano, graduating as a professional musician.

She is a member of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)—Board of Governors, Musicians Club, New York City—National Association American Composers, Conductors. Has also had been music Editor-in-chief of Harold Flammer, Inc., Music Publisher for fourteen years (until 1970). Guest composer, conductor and music clinician at various colleges in the United States. Awarded the Hopkins Medal (1961) by the St. David's Society of the State of New York, for distinguished contributions to music.

Conductor Cymanfaoedd Canu coast-to-coast—and several in Wales.

Composer of many published (and recorded) works, mostly choral, (secular and sacred).

As of Aug. 31, 1978, \$6,096.74 had been contributed for production of the new hymnals. Costs would have to be watched very carefully. As visualized, the new hymnal would have 36 sheets (72 pages) and would cost \$58.50 per page. [I don't understand this cost and prefer to wait for the more meaningful cost per printing a quantity of hymnals.] President **Thomas** urged all members of the board to contribute to the hymnal fund and to urge others to contribute. A motion was approved to order 15,000 hymnals and for the committee to proceed so that the new hymnal would be ready for the Jubilee Gymanfa in Niagara Falls, NY. Another motion carried, with two opposed, that the hymnal committee, along with the executive committee, decide on the selling price.

Cynthia Jones reported the use of the WNGGA \$500 grant for printing and postage for the quarterly newsletter. \$342.47 had been spent with a balance of \$157.53. The WAY treasurer was not present and she could not give a complete financial report. WAY has 255 names on its mailing list.

President **Eluned Thomas** called on the co-chairs for the Golden Jubilee Gymanfa and expressed executive committee concerns for expenses incurred. She said she thought the travel expenses were quite generous. The executive committee members were concerned that all members of the committee [Jubilee] were to have their accommodations paid for and questioned the necessity for this. The president said that a committee of the national board should take special care of the Association's funds. Co-Chair **Gwyneth Cryslar** said the mileage rate had been reduced, accommodations were not to be paid for by Association, as indicated in the minutes of their meeting. Complimentary rooms were to be provided by the hotel. Co-chair **Lewis Edwards** said they were trying to locate those who had been at the first gymanfa. Permission has been granted to erect a plaque at Goat Island and a professional designer has been asked to submit a design. The Wales Tourist Board will support an invitation to the Prince of Wales. The committee plans to hold a banquet rather than a luncheon and gold pencils will be with the banquet programs. It was the consensus of the Board that no

Association funds be provided for private parties. **Ann Davies Thomas** has been named an Honorary Conductor. **Owain Arwel Hughes** had been suggested as a possible conductor for the Jubilee Gymanfa.

The Secretary reported that all remaining hymnals were in Minneapolis. The last of the hymnals were sold Aug 14, 1978. Registration in Ottawa had been 1,771 (937-U.S, 817 from Canada, and 17 from the UK.) Life members as of Aug 30, 1978 were 1,060 [91%] from the U.S., 96 [8.2%] from Canada, and 17[.6%] from the UK for a total of 1,164.

The 1978 Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept 2, 1978 in Minneapolis.

Rev. Kenneth Jones reported on the hymnal committee and that an appeal for contributions had become necessary because of the tremendous increase in printing costs. An additional ten pages, or 20 hymns, have been added. The new hymnal will probably have 30-35 new hymns plus those now in the hymnal. The estimated cost of printing 15,000 at the outset will run about \$20,000. The sale of the new hymnal will recover the original investment. Members may still want to contribute in loving memory of **Francis [Frances] Williams** to express gratitude for her wonderful contribution.

Tal Griffiths' motion, seconded by **Marion Carr**, to table the proposed new Constitution was defeated on a vote of 68 to 41. **Douglas Jones** raised the question of the Articles of Incorporation and was ruled out of order, as the question was irrelevant since the discussion concerned the Constitution. **Marion Carr** observed that this body has no power. The President replied to the contrary, the authority of the trustees comes from the vote of the Association that has the authority to elect trustees and provide direction to the BOT if it so desires. **Marion Carr's** motion to remove the chairman of the endowment fund from the Governing Body provision of the proposed new Constitution was defeated 59 versus 41. Comments prior to the vote were that too much emphasis was being placed on the collection of money rather than on the Purpose of the organization. Motions to give a vote on the BOT to the president or vice president of WAY and to the President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America carried. The motion to adopt the proposed Constitution carried on a vote of 107 in favor with 4 opposed.

Retiring Trustees **Lewis Edwards, Ben Haddock, Mair Monkhouse, and Rev. Kenneth O. Jones** were awarded a Certificate of Service. [One wonders what ever happened to the 20-year supply of Parri plaques that created such a fuss at the 11 October 1974 meeting]

The Board of Trustees met at 2:30 p.m., Sept 2, 1978. Following a discussion, a motion on 10¢ per mile traveling expense for committee members for the 1979 Jubilee Gymanfa in Niagara Falls, NY was approved. A motion carried unanimously to provide an advance of \$500 towards the Jubilee Gymanfa.

Dr. Arturo L. Roberts suggested that he might send a sample issue of *Ninnau* to each member. A motion to give Dr. Roberts member labels for this mailing carried.

A motion CARRIED to appoint **John O. Morgans** as biographer to work on biographical sketches of some of our members. [Again, one wonders what ever happened?]

There was considerable discussion over the financial report submitted by the Ottawa 1977 sponsoring committee. Some of the problems stemmed from the regulations of the Canadian Federal Secretary of State governing how funds were to be used, excluding certain expenses, and requiring the return of unused funds. A motion carried to close the discussion.

President **Eluned Thomas** stated that it appears that the WNGGA might qualify for a grant for the Jubilee Gymanfa under the Folk Arts Program of the Ethnic Affairs Division of the U.S. Government.

During a discussion regarding the need for an Assistant Secretary, **Jack Meadows** mentioned that **Nelson L. Llewellyn** offered his help to the secretary if required. A motion resulted in the election of **Nelson L. Llewellyn** as assistant secretary. A motion carried electing Catherine Dodd as assistant treasurer.

A motion to table a motion to grant \$500 to WAY was defeated. Surprise was expressed that the WAY President did not know how many members are on the rolls of WAY. The original motion was amended to hold the \$500 until the liaison representative had time to check with WAY. The amendment carried but the original motion was defeated. Another motion carried to release the grant to the custody of **Dr. Islyn Thomas** until he felt that the funds would be used properly.

A motion was adopted that the President be authorized to look after advertising to the extent of \$250 in the Welsh publications of his choice.

Motion carried unanimously that WNGGA take out a \$25 membership in Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar. [Once again.]

Dr. Thomas moved that WNGGA give \$100 to *Ninnau* and the motion carried.

A motion to send mail only to life and the annual members was defeated 14 to 1. A motion to send "removal from mailing list notices" to those non-members giving two months to respond carried unanimously.

The 47th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, hosted by the St. David's Society of Minnesota and the Minnesota-Iowa Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held on 1-3 Sept. 1978 in Minneapolis.

The cover of the 56 page Program was a first for three things: identification as The 47th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, the indication that it was a two State affair, and with hosting rather than sponsoring.

There was Community Singing at the Twin City Federal Atrium on Friday. Saturday's Gala Concert featured The 3M Male Chorus, soprano **Nansi Richards**, and I Musici Bemidji, an

instrumental group from Bemidji State University in Minnesota. Seminars made their first appearance in the program.

The Program also contained an article *The Welsh in Minnesota, a Brief Account* by **Marcia Thomas Schuster**, Director of the Blue Earth County Museum in Mankato, MN.

The local committee financial statement for Minneapolis 1978 reported **income** of \$25,642.54 (including \$2,240 contributions, \$2,553.50-memorials, \$1,635-advertising, \$4,500-registration, \$3,983.50-luncheon, \$2,194-Noson Lawen, \$675-seminars, \$4,295-concert, \$792-hymnal sales, and \$1,023.05-church offering), **disbursements** of \$22,371.39 (including \$1,088.07-Noson Lawen, \$3,152.18-luncheon, \$3,363.18-concert, \$190.59-seminars, \$2,596.31-honorariums [\$100-minister, \$200-organist, \$700-director, \$1,002.81-hotel rooms, and \$593.50-travel expenses], and \$1,554.41-hotel rooms for national officers) leaving a **balance** of \$3,271.15 with the 60% share of \$2,895.34 minus \$1,554.41 (hotel rooms for national officers) amounting to \$1,340.93 going to the WNGGA.

1979

Niagara Falls, NY

An expanded meeting of the WNGGA Executive Committee meeting was held on May 26, 1979 in the conference room of the Cox Lithographing Co., Warren, OH. The purpose of the meeting was to provide financial support for publication of the (Jubilee) hymnal. A motion was made and properly seconded to accept the proposal to print 15,000 copies of the hymnbook for \$26,667.00. In determining the selling price the following was considered: 10,000 books for \$21,000 or \$2.10 per book, or 15,000 books for \$26,000 or \$1.73 per book. Adding the cost of the money used at 10% set an approximate selling price of \$3 per book. The treasurer reported \$30,504 available in savings and checking accounts. Funds donated to the hymnal fund were \$9,285 with \$2,800 expenses.. The approximate balance after paying for the new hymnals would be about \$4,000. A list of contributors would be included in the Program. The secretary reported that the 15,000 would last about 5 years. The decision to print 15,000 hymnals was unanimous. Dedication of the new hymnal would occur at the Sunday morning service with a special hymn in memory of **Francis [Frances] Williams**.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 31, 1979 in Niagara Falls, NY. **Nelson L. Llewellyn** and **Catherine Dodd** attended their first meeting as assistant secretary and treasurer respectively.

Chairman **Gwyneth Cryslar**, of the Golden Jubilee Gymanfa Committee, reported at this point: 1,142 registrations, 849 for the Noson Lawen, 943 for the banquet and concert and 414 for the WAY breakfast. She suggested that the BOT purchase a postage stamp machine and save money. Authority was granted to look into the purchase of a postal meter machine. Co-Chairman **Lewis Edwards** reported that the plaque is made from Welsh slate, it is mounted on Canadian stone, and installed on U.S. soil.

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

[I must jump ahead and repeat an article I included in the Jun 2002 issue of *HWYL* titled as above.

“Back in 1996, WNGGA member William (Bill) G. Griffiths and his wife, Rachel Jones Griffiths, of Davidson SC (formerly of Rye, NY) read of my search for information to be used in writing the history of The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

Bill was a native of Cardiff and Rachel of Maesteg, Glamorganshire. In 1929, they arrived in the United States and settled in New York State. Both Bill and Rachel were devoted to everything with a Welsh Connection. Bill was a singer and he and Rachel were frequent attendees at gymanfaoedd both locally and at the national level. Bill was a lifetime member and Past President of the St. David’s Society of the State of New York.

In June 1996, I received a large envelope from Wendy Jones Lewis of Davidson, NC, a niece of Bill and Rachel. I found an enlargement of a picture of the slate plaque installed on Goat Island, Niagara Falls, NY during the 50th Anniversary celebration. Bill asked Wendy to send it to me for the WNGGA history.

I set it aside in a safe place with full intention of contacting Bill with my appreciation and seeking more of their memories of the WNGGA. Good intentions are great. When I finally got around to calling Wendy, I was too late. Both Bill and Rachel had passed on within a year of each other.

The picture of the plaque on Goat Island appears in this history through the courtesy of Bill and Rachel Griffiths. Their input for the history was one of the few responses but an important one.]

The secretary said, “he hopes that critics are satisfied with the new hymnal”. He “expressed his concern that the Canadian people do not respond to the U.S. Nationals as the U.S. responds to the Canadian Nationals.”

Treasurer **Edwards** gave his financial report that showed **BOHBP** of \$28,968.52, **receipts** of \$9,429.21 **disbursements** of \$7,780.14 and a **BOHEP** of \$30,617.59. Total hymnal fund receipts to date amounted to \$10,142.14. The endowment fund **BOHBP** was \$20,886.12, with **receipts** of \$2,295.53, **expenditures** of \$500 (Grant to WAY) for a **BOHEP** of \$22,681.65. The **BOHEP** was distributed as follows: \$2,681.65 (Cardinal Federal Savings & Loan savings account with 5½ % interest), \$10,000 (Cardinal Federal Savings & Loan savings certificate with 9% interest) \$5,000 (Cincinnati Gas and Electric Co. Bond with interest of 9.15% interest) and \$5,000 (Pacific Telephone and Telegraph bond with 9.10% interest.

David Edwards reported that everyone paid their own transportation expenses for meetings of the hymnal committee.

A motion to put undesignated money into the endowment fund was defeated 14 to 5. All undesignated moneys will go into the general fund.

A motion to add the name of the President of WAY to the WNGGA letterhead, as requested by WAY President **Cynthia Jones** [who actually by the minutes asked that both the names of the president and vice president appear on the letterhead regardless of the fact that voting privileges at BOT meetings had been given to the president or the vice president] was defeated.

President of WAY **Cynthia Jones** reported that she put the WAY newsletter out solely this year. There is a need for news and contributions by others. Three issues were sent using the \$500 WNGGA grant leaving a balance of \$19.53 at the end of August 1979.

The feeling of some that the National (sponsoring) committees have been spending too much led to a stated need to establish guidelines for these committees.

[What about 1977 approval of Rules and Regulations?] **Bill Griffiths** thought we have to give guidance to sponsoring committees so as not to go into debt. He felt the importing of dignitaries add to the very high cost. **Owen Roberts** said he would like to see local talent to keep the costs down. It was recommended that the executive committee come to the 1980 National with some guidelines.

Paul Stevens was given the go ahead to look into the matter of Federal grants.

Jack Meadows said, “ he was very upset at the absence of photographs of himself and the Treasurer **David Edwards**. He demands an apology from those concerned with making up the Program.” **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** stated "...he does not believe this is a conspiracy, as Jack called it, but further shows we do need guidelines”. **Paul Stevens** made a motion that **Dr. Mandry** demand the Co-Chairmen to send an apologetic letter to **Jack Meadows** and **David Edwards**. [There was no indication of a second or any other action in the minutes.]

The 1979 Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 1, 1979 in Niagara Falls, NY. **Lewis Edwards** made an apology for the absence of photos of Secretary **Jack Meadows** and Treasurer **David Edwards** in the Program.

Recognition was given to **Ann Davies Thomas** and **Owen Welk** for writing the hymn tune “Niagara”.

Mrs. Marion Flinchum, President of the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America reported that they have 22 clubs, over 1,000 members and over two million dollars in their Endowment.

ANN DAVIES THOMAS’ remark “THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE LAUGHED AT A WNGGA MEETING IN A LONG TIME” appeared to be the end of a difficult time in the life of the WNGGA.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 2:25 p.m., Sept 1, 1979. The new President of WAY, **Penny Brown**, was introduced. A list of Golden Jubilee hymnal donors was distributed.

It was stated that *Ninnau* had given good coverage but that *Y Drych* had let us down. A motion carried to give *Y Drych* a token ad. \$250 is authorized for publicity and the amount given to *Y Drych* and *Ninnau* was left to the discretion of the president.

The 48th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the First National Gymanfa Ganu held in Niagara Falls on September 1, 1929, was held Aug 31-Sept. 2, 1979 in Niagara Falls, NY.

The Program cover was golden and showed a view of the Niagara Falls. The Program for 1929, if there was one, was, probably, in the form of mimeographed sheets with the 12 hymns that were sung. By contrast, the Program for the Golden Jubilee contained 48 pages (36 individual ads) within its cover. The Jubilee Hymnal, a spiral bound edition, contained 118 hymns and anthems.

The Program included an afternoon Plaque Dedication on Goat Island and an evening Noson Lawen and Te Bach for Friday. A Grand Banquet and Concert were scheduled for Saturday evening. Sunday was devoted to a Church service and two sessions of the Gymanfa.

Lord Gordon Parry, Chairman of the Wales Tourist Board, chaired the Plaque Dedication Ceremony. The slate plaque, produced at the **Llechwedd Slate Caverns of Blaenau Ffestiniog, Wales**, and installed on Goat Island, was unveiled by **the Rt. Hon. George Thomas, M.P.**, Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Saturday evening Banquet and Concert featured Guest of Honor the Rt. Hon. **George Thomas** and the Hamilton Orpheus Male Choir (ON) under the direction of **Lyn Harry**.

Welshman **Lyn Harry** founded the London (England) Welsh Male Choir in 1961 and was its conductor until 1968. He moved back to Wales to lead the internationally famous Murrison Orpheus Choir of Swansea and brought it to perform at the 1975 National in New York City. He also conducted the Gymanfa Ganu at the 1976 National in Philadelphia. The sixty-six singing members of the Hamilton Orpheus Male Choir are of Welsh, English, Scottish, and Irish ancestry and also include Chinese, Dutch, Italian and last, but certainly not least, native born Canadians.

Commentary

The celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the WNGGA (formerly the NGGA) was a great occasion. Once the Association made it through the lapse of the World War II years, there was no turning back or even a chance of failure. There were too many people dedicated to the National Gymanfa Ganu to permit it to fail. While the 1978 reported membership of 1,060 was modest, in comparison to the potential, it was a beginning. It would still take the next 25 years for the membership to approach 3,000, again modest when one recalls the 2,033,000 Welsh-Americans reported in the 1990 U.S. Census.

Not being around during this period, I found it difficult to understand why the Canadian members were so intent on challenging the Association, its legality or the powers granted to the Board of Trustees by the Association's Constitution. I wondered why so many of their incorrect positions and statements were left unchallenged.

It may have been that their small membership, incorporation in the United States and the lack of tax advantages in Canada gave a feeling that they were being ignored. If so, some of their contentions were not based on fact, During the seven year period covered in this chapter, there were two Nationals in Canada with a third scheduled for Vancouver in 1980. Two presidents were from Canada. At this time, based on the geographical distribution of trustees, one trustee in the United States represented 88 members and one in Canada represented 19 members. Some consideration should have been given to this condition during all the commotion about power to the people.

One of the few positive things to come out of all the disruptive ruckus of the past few years was **Dr. David Mandry's** suggestion that the Association look into incorporating in Canada. Since the overwhelming preponderance of membership was in the United States, I assume he meant incorporating a section in Canada so that tax advantages would be available to Canadian members. I also assume, if done, measures would have been taken to retain unity. A committee of **Dr. Mandry, Paul Stevens** and **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** was appointed to look into this. [Unfortunately, I could not find anything in future minutes on this subject.]

CHAPTER 12

New Venues (1980-1987)

The lack of communications was the start of problems with Welsh Associated Youth (WAY) that increased over the years.

Interest in performing at the National was becoming apparent with nine choirs from Wales asking to sing in Vancouver.

The treasurer commented that when he took over there was about \$500 in the bank and he thought the Association “had done well to be able to pay about \$27,000 for new hymnals in the past year.”

Meetings were less contentious as indicated by the president appointing the nominating committee contrary to provisions of the Constitution and without a challenge. However, questions still arose regarding transfer of funds from the general fund to the endowment fund and the election of officers by the Board of Trustees.

Sunday morning breakfast meetings of the Board of Trustees, to reorganize following elections, began in 1987.

The continuing question on why there were so few Canadian members came to the surface with the president “hoping to find the reason and attempt to correct the same for the low percentage of Canadian members.” He asked the Canadian trustees to investigate and report.

The impending retirements of Secretary **Jack Meadows** and Treasurer **David Edwards**, who later died on 23 April 1983 proved the wisdom of having designated assistants? Following **Jack Meadows’** retirement in 1983, **Nelson L. Llewellyn** was elected secretary by acclamation. **Jack Meadows** died on 7 August 1984.

Registrations in Wilkes-Barre were expected to reach 3,000. The \$5,784.79 entering the treasury from the Wilkes-Barre National was the largest amount to date. Registrations and attendance at the concert and Gymanfa Ganu were the largest to date. The very popular Welsh Marketplace made its first appearance in Wilkes-Barre.

Eligibility for a WNGGA scholarship, financed from interest gained in the endowment fund, was set and later confirmed. Scholarships were available to those with Welsh lineage who were citizens of the US or Canada, and member of WNGGA or WAY or a relative of a member. The first four scholarships were awarded in 1984.

In 1987, total assets of the WNGGA exceeded \$100,000 for the first time reaching \$121,708.73 with \$37,305.30 in the general fund and \$84,403.43 in the endowment fund.

1980

Vancouver, BC

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, August 29, 1980 in Vancouver, BC. **Gwenfyl Jones** reported that, at that point in time, there were 1,200 registrations, 841 tickets for the Noson Lawen, 400 for the luncheon, 300 for the WAY breakfast, and the concert was a complete sellout at 1,500 tickets.

Gwenfyl Jones reported a “lack of communication with the WAY officers since February when **Bruce Johnson** informed her that he would no longer be able to work with WAY. She had phoned and written many times with no response. She wrote to WAY President **Penny Brown**, and told her that if the Vancouver Committee had to set up the WAY breakfast, they would also take the proceeds from it. At that point, **Gwyn Parri**, **Mair Monkhouse**, and **Lewis Edwards** decided to look after the breakfast. Secretary **Meadows** confirmed the lack of response even after he followed up. **Elizabeth Griffiths** stated that from their experience with WAY in Philadelphia, “she did not believe that the young people took these things at all seriously”.

Gwenfyl Jones reported nine choirs from Wales asking to sing at the Vancouver gymanfa. They were told that it was not possible to finance a choir from Wales. The committee later learned that the Llanelli Male Voice Choir would be touring Western Canada about the same time and would be available for the cost of bus transportation from Calgary to Vancouver, 80 members \$45 per person. The cost increased by about \$25 per person and the number of choir members to 115 but, it was still quite a bargain. Only about 10 members of the choir were housed at a hotel, the rest at private homes.

Lewis Edwards felt that a first glance at the Jubilee National financial report appeared disappointing. However cassette tapes sales should realize an excess of \$2,000 when sold. Expenses in connection with the plaque should be regarded unusual but necessary. “The plaque was presented by the people of Wales at no cost and the expenses incurred on it should not be considered a loss since the plaque would be here for the future.” He said “the committee had appreciated the fact that they were allowed to run the Gymanfa at Niagara Falls with minimal interference from the National organization.”

One trustee said that providing complimentary rooms for the officers at the Nationals was becoming a problem for the local committees and felt this should be a cost of the National organization [WNGGA].

The treasurer’s WNGGA financial report showed a **BOHEP** of \$18,438.81. The total in the endowment fund was \$24, 889.30.

Donations received for the new hymnal came to \$21,987.21 against a hymnal expense of \$31,076.56.

The Secretary reported that nearly 4,000 new hymnals were sold with 10,743 hymnals and 139 phonetics still on hand.

At this time, the Association had 1,102 Life members in the USA, 95 in Canada, and 7 in the UK. The complete mailing list had 3,357 names.

President **David Mandry** expressed regret that neither the president or liaison officer was present for WAY. **Dr. Islyn Thomas** received a report from WAY with which he was not entirely satisfied, nevertheless he had authorized the WNGGA grant to WAY. In recent months he had become disenchanted with WAY and recommended that the St. David's Society of the State of New York limit their contribution to \$100 and cease support thereafter. It was reported that the WAY breakfast received \$1,860, paid \$1,404 to the hotel leaving a balance of \$456 for WAY. Because of the lack of communication on WAY's part, it was the consensus that the WNGGA do nothing further about WAY at the present time. The WAY financial report, as of 7 May 1980, reflected **BOHBP** \$665.61, **receipts** of \$2,051.25 (including WNGGA grant of \$500, memberships-\$245.88, WAY breakfast-\$456) **expenses** of \$957.51 (including \$357.79-WAY News) leaving a **BOHEP** of \$1,093.74.

Alice Deisroth reported on her attempts to get the St. David's Society of Washington, D.C. to sponsor a National. Someone there wrote **Bill Greenway** and were advised that the first thing they would have to do was raise \$10,000 and that finished any plans they may have had in Washington, D.C.

A motion PASSED that the honorarium paid to the secretary be increased to \$500. Since **David Edwards** did not take the honorarium, it was decided to leave it at \$100. The honorarium to the recording secretary was increased to \$100 from \$50.

John K. Evans asked, on behalf of the newly organized NATIONAL WELSH-AMERICAN FOUNDATION (NWAFF), for a copy of the WNGGA mailing list. It was agreed to send a copy of the Constitution but not the mailing list. [This confirmed the practice of not providing the mailing list to anyone or any organization. This practice even extended to the local venue committees that were provided labels. It later became the practice for the secretary to do all the mailing for the local committees.]

The 1980 Annual General Meeting was held on Aug. 30, 1980 in Vancouver. **Lewis Edwards** reported that "there had been total harmony at all times" during the committee meetings for the Jubilee Gymanfa.

David Edwards commented on the difference in the financial picture from when he had taken over in 1966. At that time, there was about \$500 in the bank. He thought the Association "had done well to be able to pay about \$27,000 for new hymnals in the past year". The Jubilee Hymnal cost \$31,076.58 and so far receipts from sales and donations reached \$29,468.23.

There was continued interest in a folk song book and a committee was formed to investigate the possibility of publishing one. An allocation of \$500 was set aside for its development that could take five years because of research and copyright requirements.

Vice President **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** felt that the responsibility for deciding the venue for a National should be at the annual meeting rather than Youngstown and people should refrain from scaring anyone about the possible difficulties of putting on the gymanfa.

A second meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at 2:45 p.m., August 30, 1980. From time to time, suggestions have been made on not scheduling tours during the annual meeting. **Norman Williams** said that the majority of people attending a National were not concerned in the business aspects of the Association and there would be many unhappy people if tours were not arranged since there was no other entertainment for them. A motion to implement not scheduling tours on Saturday morning was defeated.

In a discussion of the BOT putting on a National, it was commented that the local flavor would be lost, seed money to a local sponsoring committee was mentioned and one commented that there was too much dependence put on long-distance talent for the National.

Rev. Neal Lloyd commented on groups finding that there was more to Welsh culture than singing and perhaps the WNGGA should broaden its base to encompass other aspects of Welsh culture and sponsor scholarships for this. There was much discussion about the WNGGA becoming involved in other aspects of Wales with no conclusion.

The 49th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by The Welsh Society of Vancouver, BC, was held in Vancouver, BC on 29-31 August 1980. The Program listed a “Costume Display-Yesterday and Today” for Thursday, a Noson Lawen for Friday evening and a luncheon and Gala Concert on Saturday. A Sunday morning Waycus [sic] breakfast was followed with a church service and sessions of the gymanfa.

The Gala Concert featured the Llanelli Male Voice Choir and soprano soloist **Nansi Richards**. Nansi, one of Wales’ most popular sopranos and three time first prize winner at the National Eisteddfod of Wales, was making her third appearance at a National

There were 35 ads in the Program confirming advertising as an important source of income.

The Sunday morning service offering was Canadian \$747.26 which was transferred to the Vancouver Welsh Society. The grant received from the Federal government was returned because there was a profit.

1981

Utica

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 4, 1981 in Utica.

Paul Stevens reported on the availability of Federal grants. He found that folk grants were designed for small local groups not as large as the WNGGA. The Challenge grant was designed to help larger organizations, but none had ever been issued to an international group.

The turn over of the church offering of \$747.26 to the Vancouver Welsh Society was discussed. The president agreed that this should have been included in the total receipts from the National. There was no wish to change the statement, only the desire to establish a policy so that it might be handled properly in the future.

The treasurer's report showed **BOHBP** of \$18,438.81, **receipts** of \$15,587.33 (including \$2,034-Life members and dues, \$7,335.02-sale of hymnals, US \$4,097.63-50% from Vancouver National, and interest of \$1,847.18), **disbursements** of \$4,557.91 (including advances of \$1,018 for postage and printing to Utica and \$1,000 to Toronto, \$700 in honorariums to the secretary, treasurer, and recording secretary) leaving a **BOHEP** of \$29,468.23. Hymnal expenses were \$31,076.58 with receipts to date of \$29,468.23.

The endowment fund contained \$27,464.58 including \$6,975.72 in the savings account, a \$10,488.66 savings certificate and \$10,000 in bonds.

A motion passed to send two years of dues to Undeb y Cymry ar Wasgar.

Once again, a trustee asked that the purpose of the endowment fund should be explained so that contributors would know just how it is being used. Reference was made to Article XIX, paragraph e, for an explanation. A motion passed requesting **Paul Stevens** to check on the flexibility of the use of endowment fund.

The secretary reported that mailing only to life members would save approximately \$470 in postage. Trustees were concerned that this would have an adverse impact on getting new members. The decision was to leave it in the hands of the secretary to use his discretion where there was no apparent interest in the WNGGA.

There were 2,779 hymnals sold during the year with a balance on hand of 7,859. There were 13 phonetic books sold with 126 on hand.

There were a reported 1,212 life members with 1,115 in the United States, 90 in Canada and 7 overseas. The mailing list contained 3,839 names of which 2,627 were non-members. [Caution is advised on the use of these figures. Membership lists were always afflicted with mistakes caused by unreported deaths and changes of address.]

Eluned Thomas General Chairman of the Toronto asked for permission to charge a \$4 registration fee. This was approved.

The Wales Tourist Board (WTB) issued an invitation to hold a gymanfa in Wales in 1983. There would be a "Festival of Wales" there in 1983. Cardiff was mentioned as a possibility along with Llangefni, the site of the National Eisteddfod that year, making the eisteddfod pavilion available for use. One trustee felt that if the invitation was accepted, there should be no dilution of our efforts in arranging the annual Gymanfa in North America. The WTB representative was questioned as to the

capability of the WTB being connected with both the eisteddfod and the gymanfa. A question was asked about the distribution of the profits since there was supposed to be 60% of the profits for the WNGGA. It had taken three years to get a statement of any sort relative to the gymanfa in Swansea.

Gwenfyl Jones reported on the 1980 National in Vancouver, BC indicating that there had been 1,579 registrations, 1,640 concert tickets sold, and 400 at the WAY luncheon.

The 1981 Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept 5, 1981 in Utica. **Bob Jones** of the Utica committee reported 1,350 registrations on hand with more coming in. There were 128 life and one annual members and 7 representatives of organizations at the meeting.

Paul Stevens answered a question about the low interest rate on bonds. The current rate was in excess of 15%. However, when the bonds were purchased the rate was 9 ½% and conversion now would probably result in a loss. One questioner stated that the use of the endowment fund seemed to be the same as the general fund and, if so, why was there a need for it? She understood it was supposed to be used for scholarships. The treasurer said that he felt we could not afford to give scholarships. Another said it was better to let the endowment fund grow until interest from it was significant for use.

The Constitution prohibited the secretary and treasurer serving beyond two three-year terms without the consent of a majority of the members voting at an annual meeting. A motion passed to permit the currently serving Secretary **Jack Meadows** and Treasurer **David Edwards** to continue in office if elected by the BOT.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 5, 1981 in Utica. **Jack Meadows** was re-elected Secretary for a three year term and offered his resignation effective in Toronto in 1982. **David Edwards** was re-elected for another three-year term and said that this would be his last year.

The 50th National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the St. David's Society of Utica, was held on Sept. 3-6, 1981. In spite of the name change to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, the Program still listed " Under the Auspices of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada.."

Emlyn I. Griffiths, prominent area lawyer and a Regent of the State of New York was the Banquet Master of Ceremonies. He introduced the guest speaker Associate Justice of the New York Court of Appeals Hon.. **Judge Huw R. Jones** and area Historian **Dr. David Maldwyn Ellis**. Toronto soloists soprano **Gaynor Jones** and tenor **Glynn Evans** and the Syracuse Brass performed at the grand concert

The financial report of the Utica National Gymanfa Ganu showed **receipts** of \$49,954.32 (including \$5,187-contributions, \$4,56.90 in memorials, \$4,050-advertising, \$5,243.72-registrations, [since there was another registration figure, I assume these were registrations for everything], and \$4,743.05-registrations for concert and supper. The receipt of \$7,914.50 for the concert to meet the concert expense of \$1,800 resulted in an amazing profit of \$6,114.50. A church offering of \$991

rounded out the receipts). Listed **expenses** amounted to \$39,479.72 (including \$7,570.09-printing of Program and letterhead, \$7,112.15-banquet, \$1,800-concert, \$2,081-tours and \$4,090.20 in rentals. All offered activities (banquet, concert, tours and supper) generated a surplus. The **balance** of \$10,474.60 resulted in a **\$5,237.30** share going to the WNGGA, the second largest amount following 1976 in Philadelphia.

1982

Toronto

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept 3, 1982 in Toronto.

The Treasurer reported BOHBP of \$29,468.23, receipts of \$16,562.13 (including \$1,100-dues and life memberships, \$5,237.30-Utica National, \$6,857.86-sale of hymnals, and \$2,542.97-interest), disbursements of \$4,369.85 (including \$125-Ohio State tax for 5 years, \$938.39-issue of Endowment letter and postage, and \$1,380-President's annual letter postage and printing) for a BOHEP of \$41,660.51. The Endowment Fund showed a balance of \$30,800.07.

A lengthy discussion concerned the president's allowance for advertising (\$250) with the treasurer stating that most presidents had not used the amount so he sent the president \$100. **Lewis Edwards** said that it was the precedent the president receive \$250 and it should go into the record of these minutes.

The Secretary reported membership of 1150 life (1057 in U.S., 86 in Canada and 7 in UK) a loss of 62, and 55 annual paid members. Emphasis on need for change of addresses, a continuing problem with over 200 returned from four mailings. **Gwynfair Walters**, WAY President, reported WAY solvent (WAY had \$1,497.76 in treasury as of July 14, 1982) and did not have to ask WNGGA for money this year.

Catherine Dodd reported that **David Edwards** had refused to let her assist in any way with the treasurer's duties. She "expressed dismay and bewilderment with the attitude from her friend and associate." **David Edwards** replied that there was so little knowledge to share and that the report was so simple to prepare. **Tom Edwards** stated he "was distressed that the Secretary and Treasurer both were so unwilling to enlighten their associates". **David Edwards** then stated that he would be resigning at the trustees meeting on Saturday. The recording secretary asked if this should be put in the minutes and he said "yes". The president urged both of these officers to cooperate with their appointed [elected] assistants

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 4, 1982 in Toronto. The secretary reported 2,000 hymnals sold with 5,860 on hand from the 15,000 printed in 1979. The treasurer stated that the sale of hymnals has realized \$3,000 in profit.

Tom Edwards commented on the fine spirit that prevails in the organization and especially thanked Secretary **Jack Meadows** and Treasurer **Dave Edwards** for their splendid service to the organization.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, 4, 1982 at 2:30 p.m. The President reported on his investigation into a folk song book and that there were many details to be worked out. After discussion, a motion carried to appoint a committee to pursue this matter.

Rev. Neal Lloyd reminded the group that **David Edwards** had stated the day before that he wished to resign. **David Edwards** tendered his resignation as treasurer. **Tom Edwards** said we hoped to accomplish this day with honor and respect. **Dr. Mandry** moved that the resignation of the treasurer not be accepted and the motion carried. **Catherine Dodd** and **Nelson L. Llewellyn** were elected asst. treasurer and asst. secretary respectively.

The 51st National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored, by the Dewi Sant Welsh United Church of Toronto, was held on Sept.3-6, 1982. The Program included the designation of **Eluned Thomas** as an ex-officio Vice President by virtue of her being the general chairman of the sponsoring committee. [This designation and allowing a representative of the sponsoring committee to attend BOT meetings was discussed many times. Designation as an ex-officio vice president was authorized in the 1978 Constitution. However compliance was spotty at the best. (1936-in, 1959-in, 1965-in ex-officio,1971-out, 1978-in, 1994-no vote, 1999 not vice president. Attend no vote.]

The Program listed a Pageant, entitled “A Welsh Odyssey” that was written and produced by **Rev. Hedd-Wyn M. Williams** assisted by **Huw Jones**. The Dewi Singers, the only Welsh choir in Toronto, and its conductor **Jean Iona Thompson** performed during the pageant and the Sunday morning Welsh church service. Côr Meibion Y Traeth, from Anglesey, Wales, under the direction of **Rowland Jones**, participated in “A Welsh Odyssey” and both sessions of the gymanfa.

Rev. Hedd-Wyn M Williams, a native of the Amman Valley in Carmarthenshire, Wales excelled in his younger days as an elocutionist. He won over 60 silver cups and other trophies at eisteddfodau in Wales. He was a triple National Eisteddfod winner in elocution and was inducted into the Gorsedd of the Bards. He holds degrees in Arts and Theology from the University of Wales and the University of Toronto. He was minister of Dewi Sant, the only Welsh Church in Canada, where he remains its Honorary Minister.

The team of soprano **Gaynor Jones** and her husband accompanist/organist **David Low**, of Toronto, performed at Nationals in 1979, 1981 and 1982. David was the organist at the 1979 National and accompanist for his wife’s solos during the 1981 and 1982 Nationals.

The finance report for the Toronto National listed **receipts** of \$49,139.37 in Canadian dollars (\$6,296 for 1,574 registrations, \$5,913.24-donations, \$4,465 for 893 tickets for the Pageant, \$15,240 for 635 banquet tickets, \$4,626 for 771 supper tickets and \$4,903.88 for advertising. There were **disbursements** of \$43,445.54 (\$1,815.95-Pageant, \$13,752.42-banquet and musical program and \$4,830 for the supper. The **surplus** of \$5,693.83 was divided in half with \$2,307.06 US Dollars going to the WNGGA treasury.

1983

Wilkes-Barre

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 2, 1983 in Wilkes-Barre. **Jack Pritchard**, chairman of the sponsoring committee, reported 950 banquet reservations and no reserved tables. He reported 2,400 registrations and expected to reach 3,000.

The Secretary reported 2,000 hymnals sold with the supply down to 5,000.

Assistant Treasurer **Catherine Dodd**, who took over after the death of David Edwards [April 23, 1983], presented the treasurer's report showing **BOHBP** of \$41,660.51, **receipts** of \$10, 286.62 (including \$4,759.56-hymnal sales, \$1,103-dues, \$2,307-WNGGA portion of Toronto surplus), **disbursements** of \$4,320.43 (including \$1,000-advance to Wilkes-Barre, \$700 annual gifts to secretary, treasurer, and recording secretary and \$676.13 for letterheads) for a **BOHEP** in checking account of \$12,256.16. Total assets in the General Fund at this time were \$47,626.70 (including \$12,256.16-checking, \$10,370.54 savings @ 5 ¼%, \$15,000 certificate @14.167% Int., and a \$10,000 certificate @ 13.154% Int.) The endowment fund had a total value of \$33,914.14 in savings and investments.

A motion carried to keep the hymnal as it is and have more printed when necessary. The secretary reported a 2-year supply on hand. **Eluned Thomas** suggested that \$10,000 would be needed for the folk song book, \$10,000 for reprinting hymnals and \$5,000 for general purposes. A motion to transfer \$25,000 to the endowment fund was approved.

The scholarship committee recommended that Welsh lineage, citizen of the United States or Canada, a member of WNGGA or relative of a member, or a member of WAY all be established as the prerequisites for scholarship eligibility. These were accepted and a committee of three members from the BOT, chaired by the Chairman of the Endowment Fund was, was appointed to administer the scholarship program.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept 3, 1983 in Wilkes-Barre. The secretary reported that there were about 3,000 hymnals left from the original 15,000. A question regarding the \$500 gift to the secretary led to the President **Norman E. Williams'** explanation of the extent of the secretary's duties. The president also explained that it was customary to provide an advance to the sponsoring committee in the form of a loan. [The precedent for an advance loan to a sponsoring committee was established in 1979 when \$500 was provided the BOT committee that arranged the Jubilee National. The \$1,000 advance to the Wilkes-Barre committee was the first to a local venue committee. Regardless of the president's explanation, this was also a spotty procedure that did not become standard until the late 1990's.]

Douglas Jones asked how the transfer of funds to the endowment fund could be made without the vote of the general assembly. The president explained that the trustees have this power according to the Constitution.

The Report from WAY indicated 300 members.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 3, 1983. **John Nichols**, of San Francisco, was introduced and played a tape portraying a method for learning to sing in Welsh. The tapes can be made for any part. Mr. Nichols was interested in obtaining a \$2,500 grant from the National (WNGGA) to pursue this project. Following discussion of the project with most not in favor, a motion of non-interest at this time carried.

President Williams asked that the Honorary President be listed in the Program. **Gwenfyl Jones** commented that if they wanted to act as an Honorary President they should give a contribution. A motion not obligating the printing of the name carried. [Without an explanation and with all the other names listed, this seemed to take the honor out of being designated an Honorary President.]

Catherine Dodd was elected to fill out the unexpired term as Treasurer.

A committee, **Eluned Thomas**, Chair, and members **David Thomas** and **Lewis Edwards**, was appointed to review the rules and regulations for the sponsoring committees.

A motion carried to provide the folk song book committee with \$500 as a development grant.

A motion carried to continue membership in Y Undeb Cymry ar Wasgar.

The matter of complimentary rooms was brought up with the President saying that “if there was not enough complimentary rooms available the executive committee would work it out and perhaps pay for their own accommodation.”

Jack Meadows felt he had done his duty towards the WNGGA and, with regret, tendered his resignation as Secretary. **Nelson L. Llewellyn** was elected by acclamation to fill the unexpired term as secretary. Nelson began his career with the WNGGA with his 1978 election as assistant secretary and his election as a trustee in 1981. His distinguished WNGGA career included service as secretary, its first executive director and baritone soloist at Nationals in Philadelphia (1976) and Columbus (1998). See App. F.

The 52nd National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Gymanfa Committee was held on Sept. 2-4 1983 in Wilkes-Barre. The 65 page Program contained 55 pages of ads and memorial messages. The Program contained the following Memorial to **David M. Edwards**, WNGGA Treasurer.

David M. Edwards of Cleveland, OH, Treasurer of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, passed away suddenly on April 23, 1983.

A native of Aberdare, South Wales, he arrived in the United States in 1926. From 1926 to 1956 he was an accountant at Wheeler Industries in Cleveland, and from 1956 until his retirement in 1981 he served as Administrator and Treasurer of the Trebling Corporation of Cleveland, a developer of industrial properties.

In 1966 he succeeded the late Menna Williams of Detroit as Treasurer of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association to which organization he brought the benefit of his experience and ability which he had gleaned in the business and industrial areas. He proved himself an invaluable asset to the Association and his passing will be felt as a distinct loss to the organization.

Devoted to his home and family life, Dave Edwards was always proud of his Welsh forebearers [sic] and his Welsh heritage, as evidenced by his participation in Welsh functions in his local area and nationally as well.

His integrity and character, as well as his enthusiasm and good humor will long be remembered by all those who knew Dave Edwards. We have suffered a great loss.

The Welsh Market Place, a first for the Nationals, opened in the Sheraton-Crossgates Hotel on Friday through Sunday, closing at 1:00 p.m. Sunday. [This was the beginning of a very popular attraction at the Nationals. For many, it was their first chance to purchase Welsh clothing articles, souvenirs, jewelry, music and books.] There was a flag raising ceremony at the Wilkes-Barre Public Square on Saturday afternoon.

Rev. George B. Johnson's *A Brief Account of the Welsh in Wyoming Valley* was also found in the Program. See App. J. There were 6 pages of Memorial Gifts. The Conductor for the Gymanfa Ganu was **Alun Guy** of Cardiff and the soloist was **Donna J. Pierce**.

Dr. Ellis Wynn Roberts was the toastmaster for the Friday Banquet with remarks by linguist, lecturer, and Welsh enthusiast **Dr. Robert Fowkes**. Welsh raconteur and plastics pioneer, **Dr. Islyn Thomas, O.B.E** and President of the National Welsh-American Foundation entertained and actress and monologist **Nancy Sanders** performed.

The problems of holding a National in a relatively small city were evident with the variety of event sites: The Sheraton-Crossgates was the headquarters hotel but the banquet was at the Best Western Genetti Motor Inn. The Awr Y Plant was in the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church while the concert and church service were in the Irem Temple Mosque. The Gymanfa Ganu sessions were in the 109th Field Artillery Armory in Kingston, another unique first. The success of this National proved that anything can be done with planning, organization, and enthusiasm.

The **surplus** of \$11,569.57 resulted in **\$5,784.79** to the National treasury. Not only was this the largest amount realized to date, the registrations and concert and gymanfa attendance were the largest to date.

1984

Portland, OR

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 31, 1984 in Portland, OR. None of the officers from WAY were present and it was reported that the last WAY newsletter failed to mention

the National in Portland. WAY had advertised for an editor without specifying a Welsh connection. President **Norman Williams** suggested the need for a liaison officer from the BOT to WAY. [Institutional Memory]

The treasurer's report was presented in a new format separated into checking account and money market savings account (MMSA). Total of all accounts was \$40,672.33 (including \$1,379.60-checking account, \$23,358.08-MMSA at 8.90% interest, \$15,000-certificate of deposit at 10.15% interest, and \$934.65 interest on certificate of deposit.) Two certificates of deposit totaling \$25,000 were transferred to the endowment fund.

Secretary Llewellyn's report included work on mailings for the Portland Committee. This recurring activity of the secretary was done, as a control measure, rather than distribute the mailing list to sponsoring committees. For Portland, the first mailing was 2,920 pieces and the second; a combined mailing for Portland and the president's letter was 2,934 pieces. The secretary applied for and got a non-profit mailing permit that permitted mailing for \$0.052 a piece rather than \$0.20 per piece, a saving of approximately \$735 for the two mailings. Total membership was reported as 1,361 (1,326 life and 35 annual) with 1,208 life and 35 annual in the United States, 97 life in Canada, 13 societies, 8 life overseas. [It is important to remember the difficulty with keeping reported membership accurate.]

The secretary presented quotes on reprinting hymnals: 5,000 for \$10,550 or \$2.11 each, 10,000 for \$17,300 or \$1.73 each, and 15,000 for \$22,533 or \$1.50 each. A motion must have carried to print 10,000 hymnals for \$17,330 as printing was accomplished. A motion to allot \$3,000 to update office equipment was changed to \$5,000 and carried. A copyright was pending for the WNGGA hymnal and a motion carried to prohibit its sale by commercial groups.

Paul Stevens reported the receipt of 11 applications and awarding of 4 scholarships. No applications were received from Canada. [These first scholarships were the start of a very successful WNGGA program described in Appendix H.] The endowment fund report disclosed a **BOHBP** of \$33,914.14, **receipts** of \$5,084.01 (including \$4,999.01-interest and \$85 in contributions). Total assets in the endowment fund were \$61,392.70.

The death of **Jack Meadows**, on 7 August 1984, was recognized. Jack, was memorialized in the Program with the words

He was a person who always did what he thought was best for the WNGGA; his death brings a great loss to his many loyal friends and associates that he has cultivated through his 16 years as executive secretary."

An invitation from Cardiff for a 1986 gymanfa was received. Discussion again mentioned the adverse impact on the National here. An invitation from the Welsh Singing Society of Columbus, OH to hold the 1986 National was accepted. Motion carried to tactfully refuse the invitation from the Wales Tourist Board for a gymanfa in Cardiff in 1986.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept 1, 1984 in Portland. **Edith Hill** reported that the Wilkes-Barre area was greatly enhanced by holding the National. The Wilkes-Barre share of the surplus (\$5,784.79) went to the Women's Welsh Society of Scranton, the Welsh Home in Ohio, and the St. David's Societies of Wilkes-Barre and Scranton.

A question why the scholarship amounts were so low when there is a large balance in the endowment fund led to the reminder that only the interest from the fund may be used.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held, at 7:40 a.m., on Sunday, Sept 2, 1984. So far 93 titles were selected for the folk song book. **Olwen Welk** requested that music should be included and a **Gwenfyl Jones** motion that a sample book be produced carried. The Rules and Regulations for sponsoring committees will be ready to present to the Columbus group for 1986.

President **Norman Williams** felt that the Welsh flag flying outside the hotel was a nice gesture but too small. He thought the WNGGA should purchase a flag for this purpose and pass it from one venue to another. **Nancy Miller** felt honored to present such a flag in the memory of her father who had recently passed away. Her offer was accepted.

The Wilkes-Barre committee passed the banners displayed in the headquarters hotel there to the Portland group and they will be passed to the Montreal group.

There was a hope to have a breakdown of membership by geographical area and this should become possible with computerization.

The 53rd National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the 1984 Gymanfa Committee of Portland, OR, was held on Aug. 30-Sept 2, 1984. This was the first National to be co-chaired by ladies with **Emmaline Davies** and **Betty Pierce** sharing this honor. Following the precedent established in Wilkes-Barre, Welsh Sale Tables were available.

The listing of trustees was out of geographical balance with only 6 out of the 9 authorized for the US East, 5 for Canada and 5 against 3 authorized for the US West.

God Save the Queen returned after a long absence to be sung with the national anthems of the United States and Canada.

The concert "Saturday Night Lively" contained a wide variety of vocal, instrumental, choral presentations and readings.

Nelson L. Llewellyn conducted his first Memorial Service during the Sunday morning church service. His rich baritone voice dignified this memorial for many years.

The Portland 1984 National financial report indicated a **surplus** of \$9,344.44 with **50%** (**\$4,672.22**) going to the national treasury. The Portland share was divided equally between the Bryn Seion Church and the Portland Cambrian Society. [The trickle down effect of the Nationals was one

of the rarely recognized benefits of the WNGGA work to perpetuate the Gymanfa Ganu on the North American continent.]

1985

Montreal

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 30, 1985 in Montreal. **Meirwyn Walters**, President of WAY, reported that WAY was planning a scholarship for at least one of their members to attend the National. The WAY financial report indicated that three newsletters were issued and a balance in the WAY treasury of \$1,648.69.

The deaths of **Rev. John Owen** and **Eluned Thomas** were listed in the minutes.

Total WNGGA general fund assets were \$35,917.25. A motion to transfer \$15,000 from the general fund to the endowment fund was approved.

The Chairman of the Endowment Fund **Paul Stevens** reported 15 application forms sent out for scholarships, six applications were received and four scholarships totaling \$4,250 were awarded. The endowment fund **BOHEP** was \$63,658.30.

Paul Stevens announced that \$1,000 had been received from the estate of **Eluned Thomas**, a most beloved member of the WNGGA, a Past President, a member of the Board of Trustees, who passed away this year. She was also the first WNGGA recording secretary.

Secretary **Nelson I. Llewellyn** reported membership, as of August 28, 1985, at 1,363 with 1,210 life and 37 annual in the U.S., 92 life in Canada, 16 U.S. organizations, and 8 overseas members.

He shipped 1,770 hymnals and 7 phonetics leaving a balance inventory of 9,776 hymnals and 45 phonetic books. The sale of 8 cassette tapes of the Jubilee Gymanfa of 1979 left 138 on hand.

The secretary's report of frequent requests for the WNGGA mailing list led to an accepted motion that the list be provided only at the discretion of the secretary.

A motion carried to have the secretary use his judgment on the matter of insurance for office equipment and supplies estimated to cost about \$100 per year

Nancy Miller presented a Welsh flag in memory of all the Welsh who came to begin their lives in North America and especially in memory of her father **Charles Cornelius Michael** and to the memory of his grandparents who left Briton Ferry, Glamorgan in 1880. The flag is to be flown annually at each Gymanfa commencing with Montreal. At the end of the Sunday evening session, the flag will be handed to the hosts of the next National Gymanfa Ganu.

Islyn Thomas' suggestion that the price of life memberships be raised to \$35 or \$50 was tabled for the present.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, August 31, 1985 in Montreal.

President **Gwenfyl E. Jones** reported work still in progress on the folk song book. **Mrs. John (Joan) Owen**, who took on the job following the death of **Rev. John Owen**, spent many hours on research and copyrights relative to the folk song book. The president asked for patience for what would be a long-term effort.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, Aug. 31, 1985. On the folk song book, President **Gwenfyl Jones** felt it would take five years before all the copyrights and other plans could be finalized. The price [costs?] could run into thousands of dollars.

The Mississippi River was [and still is] the dividing line between East and West in the United States. Memberships were distributed approximately 20% in the West and 80% in the East.

In a deviation from the Constitution, President **Jones** appointed **Donna Davies**, **Terence Pearce** and **Daniel Williams** to serve as the nominating committee. [Once again, there was no challenge to this unconstitutional action indicating a return to less contentious times governing the WNGGA.]

Edward Field felt that the spiritual part of the Gymanfa Ganu was being neglected and that clapping was not appropriate for the Gymanfa. A discussion led to no consensus.

The 54th Annual Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the St. David's Society of Montreal, was held on August 29-Sept 1, 1985 in Montreal. The Program listed trustee vacancies of 1 from the West and 2 from Canada.

The Thursday evening *Noson Lawen-Light and Lively Entertainment* featured "Hogia'r Wyddfa", a popular folk song group from Wales. Humorist **Brinley Jenkins** from Wales and MABSANT, a Welsh singing group, rounded out the program. [Please remember my caution that the listing of participants in the Program is no guarantee that they actually appeared.]

The availability of Welsh Boutiques carried on the Welsh Market Place started in Wilkes-Barre.

From their beginnings, an Awr Y Plant (Children's Hour) and a Welsh American Youth (WAY) event were part of each National. **Meirwyn Ioan Walters**, President of WAY recalled that this was the fifteenth National for WAY and closed with "best wishes from W.A.Y: One W.A.Y. to a Welsh future!" Fourteen year old flautist **Sian Nia Palmer**, a 1984 first prize winner at the National Eisteddfod of Wales, and violinist **Amadee Daryl Williams**, a performer at the 1981, 1982 and 1983 Nationals, entertained at the WAY luncheon and during the grand concert.

The grand concert on Saturday featured the Montreal Welsh Male Voice Choir, soprano **Margaret Rees**, harpist **Caryl Thomas**, the Fine Arts Core Education (F.A.C.E.) Senior Treble Choir, and Hogia'r Wyddfa.

The sessions of the Gymanfa included anthems by the St. Lawrence Choir, The evening anthem was “Sing a New Song” composed especially for the Montreal Gymanfa by **Alun Hoddinott**. Soprano **Margaret Rees** was the soloist.

The **surplus** of \$13,985.66 Canadian was divided evenly with \$6,992.83 each going to the WNGGA and the St. David’s Society of Montreal.

1986

Columbus

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 29, 1986 in Columbus. **Terence Pearce**, who chaired the sponsoring committee for last year’s National in Montreal and was elected Trustee at last year’s annual meeting, died on November 20, 1985 and was memorialized in the Program.

Terrence Pearce, Chairman of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu [Committee] held in Montreal passed away on November 20, 1985. Born in Llanelli, he brought his family to Montreal in 1955. He soon became active in the Welsh community as a member of the Montreal Welsh Male Voice Choir, as vice-president of the St. David’s Society of Montreal, and as member of the board of trustees of the W.N.G.G.A. In 1985 his dream of bringing the National Gymanfa Ganu to Montreal came true, bringing with it a renewal of the Welsh cultural heritage, not only for the people of Quebec, but also for those throughout Canada and the U.S. We are fortunate that Terry gave himself for the Welsh cause. His achievements will live on.

Owen Roberts reported that 1,232 “delegates were present” at Montreal and a check for \$6,992.83 (Canadian) would be presented at the Annual Meeting.

A bequest of \$250 was received from the estate of life member Esther W. Elias.

A communication was received from **John Nichols** regarding his continuing interest in the WNGGA sponsoring cassette tapes for Gymanfa singers. Donna Davies reported he had suffered a stroke recently and was in a coma.

The secretary offered an indication of the order of magnitude of the mailings for a venue committee. The first mailing for Columbus was 4,062 and the second was 3,897. The approximate saving of \$980 using the bulk mailing permit was reduced by \$200 for guaranteed return postage in an attempt to purify the mailing list.

Three WAY members were given scholarships enabling them to attend the National.

Dave Thomas reported still working on rules and regulations for sponsoring committees and hoped to have something for next year.

Paul Stevens questioned the requirement of Article IX of the Constitution that the secretary and treasurer must be residents of the United States since the WNGGA is incorporated in the State of Ohio. He also questioned the requirement of Article XIX that the chairman of the endowment fund also must be a resident of the United States. He found no legal requirement for this and felt it was an unwarranted discrimination against the Canadian members. In response to a question on paying bills, he said two signatures were required and all officers handling funds should be bonded. He suggested proposed amendments to the Constitution to be presented during the annual meeting. He also suggested clarification of the 75% vote required to pass amendments to the Constitution to indicate 75% of those present at the Annual Meeting.

The WNGGA checking account had a **BOHBP** of \$600.38, **receipts** of \$10,735.47 (hymnal sales-\$5,664.47, dues-\$2,845, share from Montreal of \$1,866 and contributions \$310), **disbursements** of \$8,048.20 (rental-\$900; postage-\$1,197.07; printing-\$3,599.78; gratuities to secretary, recording secretary and treasurer-\$700; national president expenses-\$166.95; advertising-\$288.70; shipping charges-\$213.26; insurance-\$150; telephone-\$245.44; scholarship-\$500 and miscellaneous-\$87) for a **BOHEP** of \$3,287.65. The MMA **BOHBP** was \$34,917.25, **deposits** of \$2,557.81(interest-\$1,368.33, dues-\$378, hymnal sales-\$489.88 and miscellaneous-\$321.50) and **disbursements** of \$15,000 to the Endowment Fund for a **BOHEP** of \$22,475.06. When added to the checking account balance, WNGGA assets in the general fund were \$25,762.71. A motion to transfer \$5,000 to the endowment fund as of Sept. 1986 carried.

Paul Stevens, in his endowment fund report said that more substance has to be put into the rules about scholarship applications. "He feels some applicants feel we are running a travel agency". The endowment fund financial report showed BOHEP of \$82,739.24. Interest earned ranged from 6% to a high of 9.1%.

Total WNGGA net worth was \$108,501.95. [This was the first time net worth exceeded \$100,000] Projected expenses were \$5-6,000 for office equipment purchases, including a computer, and \$30,000 for printing of a new hymnal. Leasing of a computer was suggested because of their constant improvements. A motion carried authorizing up to \$6,000 for computerization.

The 1986 Annual General Meeting was held in Columbus on Saturday, Aug. 30, 1986. A Moment of Silence was held in memory of **Terence Pearce**.

Douglas Jones asked about the method of financial entries "we seem to be taking money from the national fund and transferring it to the endowment fund". He suggested that the Constitution be changed to accommodate this program

Undeg Edwards reported copyright problems in publishing the folk song book

Douglas Jones addressed the meeting and asked that all officers be elected at the annual meeting, and brought up tax deductible items that were different in Canada than in the U. S. He asked that we take a more vigorous attitude toward WAY, that past presidents should receive more recognition, and thanked the president for her introductions of past presidents at the banquet. [Douglas

never acknowledged that there had to be a difference between Canada and the US. The majority of the members were in the United States and incorporation and non-profit designation resulted in tax benefits for this majority. If incorporated in Canada the opposite would have been true. There was no indication in the minutes that the suggested incorporating a section in Canada was pursued.]

A motion to adopt the amendments to Article IX and XXII, as suggested by **Paul Stevens** carried. [I believe it was fortunate that the provisions authorizing the treasurer and chairman of the endowment fund to be citizens of either the United States or Canada were never tested. Different accounting regulations, time and distance, and the exchange rate were all potential problems. These provisions remained in the Constitution until 1999 when the treasurer and executive director were required to be US citizens. Authorization for the chairman of the endowment fund to be a citizen of Canada remained in the Constitution until the 2001 Constitution when the treasurer became responsible for the endowment fund.]

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Saturday, August 30, 1986 in Columbus. There was more discussion on folk songbook and scholarships.

In a letter from **Anne Habermehl**, she felt her son, not of Welsh lineage, should be eligible for a scholarship because she was a very loyal and active person in all the Welsh circles. The request was rejected and Welsh ancestry remained one of the prerequisites for a WNGGA scholarship..

New President **Dave Thomas** is “hoping to find the reason and attempt to correct same for the low percentage of Canadian members.” He asked trustees to think about this and report back next year. **Don Mills** felt the currency [exchange rate] was a factor and that additional motivation was needed. **Owen Roberts** expressed dismay at the small number of Canadians, but asked the group to take into consideration the great population difference. He offered to investigate and report. The president said he would be expecting a report from all the Canadian trustees.

The president is thinking about a change in the meeting schedule: a first meeting on Thursday and maybe an early Sunday morning meeting.

A motion carried authorizing a \$5 registration fee for St. Paul. Other motions carried to give \$500 to WAY and to contribute \$50 to *Enfys* [the journal of Undeb Y Cymry ar Wasgar].

The 55th Annual National Gymanfa Ganu sponsored by the Welsh Society of Central Ohio was held on Aug. 28-31, 1986 in Columbus. The Chairman of the local committee was **Thomas Brownfield**. A Welsh Market Place was open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and from 9 until 12 noon on Sunday.

Continuous entertainment was provided on the Hyatt Regency connected. Ohio Center Atrium Stage. A Friday evening banquet included entertainment by the All-Ohio Youth Choir under the direction of **Glenville Davies Thomas**, a native of Ystradgynlais.

The Saturday evening Gala Concert, in the Palace Theater in Downtown Columbus, featured the Rhos Male Voice Choir from Rhosllanerchrugog (Rhos), North Wales, under the direction of **Colin Jones**, with accompanist **John Tudor Jones**, and soloists: soprano **Janice Davies Rees**, tenor **Dafydd Edwards**, and bass **Ifan Lloyd**.

There was even some more informal singing by members of the Rhos Choir long into the evening following the evening session. The Atrium of the adjoining Columbus Center was an especially effective scene for the informal singing.

[I have taken the liberty of highlighting the choir and artists from Wales and other activities of the National in Columbus because this was our first National and all that took place in Columbus in 1986 left a lasting impression on this Welsh-American and opened my eyes and my heart to my Welsh heritage. The balanced variety of activities seemed to set a style that later Nationals followed. This was also my first experience with a Welsh Market Place having brought the National Welsh-American Foundation traveling booth to display there.]

With a history that dates back to 1863, the Rhos Male Voice Choir was formed originally as a mixed choir and then in 1891 became a male voice choir. It has competed extensively in Eisteddfodau and other competitions. It gives about 20 concerts a year and has toured most European countries, Canada and the United States. The Choir has a 25-year partnership with its conductor, **Colin Jones**, and accompanist **John Tudor Davies**. **Colin Jones** is a native of Rhos. He worked as a miner for eight years before turning his life over to music. At age 14, he won the open piano solo competition at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. After studying at the Royal College of Music, he was asked to join the staff in 1967. He moved up to senior lecturer and chorus master of the school of vocal studies and, in 1975 accepted appointment as principal lecturer and head of music at the Northeast Wales Institute of Further Education. At the age of 17, he was accompanist for the Rhos Male Voice Choir and, at 21, he became its musical director, the youngest ever to lead a choir of this quality. **John Tudor Davies**, accompanist and deputy conductor of the Rhos Male Voice Choir, is the head of the music department at Grove Park School, Wrexham and organist and chairman of the Peniel Baptist Church in Rhos. He is a skilled arranger, an Eisteddfod adjudicator and Gymanfa Ganu conductor. He became accompanist for the choir in 1957. Soprano **Janice Davies Rees**, from Llanelli, has been singing since a child. Among her many honors are the Sir David James Memorial Scholarship, the Urdd Gobaith Cymru Recognition Award, and the International Eisteddfod Award on 1952. This is her third visit to Columbus, proof of her appreciated performance. **Joela Jones**, who played two piano solos during the afternoon session, is the principal keyboard instrumentalist of the Cleveland Symphony and the Rudolf Serkin endowed chair. Called a child prodigy, at age 12 she was invited to play with the Miami Symphony Orchestra. At 13, she was granted a scholarship at the Eastman School of Music. While at Eastman, she frequently performed with the Rochester Philharmonic and the Eastman Symphony. She made her New York debut with Arthur Fiedler and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. She has appeared as soloists with the orchestras of Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Houston and Philadelphia. Tenor **Dafydd Edwards**, of Bethania, Wales, is one of Wales' best known tenors and has toured throughout the world. He is a farmer by birthright and raises sheep on his ancestral farm. A

three-time Blue Riband winner at the National Eisteddfod, he has performed at the Royal Albert Hall and is a favorite of BBC radio and television programs. Obviously a favorite for the Welsh of Central Ohio, he first was a guest soloist for the local gymanfa of 1977, he returned as a soloist in 1979 and as part of a group in 1980 and 1982. Bass **Ifan Lloyd**, from Aberaeron, has taken awards six times at the National Eisteddfod and is a three-time winner at the Urdd Eisteddfod and was a Covent Garden finalist. While not traveling the globe as a concert artist, he occupies his time as a horse breeder, a restaurateur, and a car dealer.

The continuous entertainment on the Atrium Stage included Welsh country dancers, soloists, singing groups, poets, instrumentalists, and local Welsh-American choirs. The Way Luncheon entertainment included **Carla Jenkins** a vocalist and First Runner-up at the 1986 Miss Pennsylvania Scholarship Pageant and violinist **David Habermehl** who started his violin training following the Suzuki method.

The Sunday morning church service was my first exposure to a Welsh born preacher and Dr. Elam Davies moved me.

Born in Pengellydraen, a village seven miles from Swansea. Dr. Elam Davies grew up in a Welsh speaking home and worshipped in the local *Capel y Methodistiaid Calfinaidd*, the Presbyterian Church of Wales. He attended the University of Wales in Cardiff and did his graduate work at the University of Cambridge. His final year in preparation for the ministry was spent in Bala Theological College. His first pastorate was in Newport. He then moved to Llandudno to take charge of the English Presbyterian Church, the English-speaking congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Wales. He and his family moved to the U.S. in 1951 where he served as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem, PA. In 1961 he became pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago and its Pastor Emeritus in 1984. He was a professor of philosophy, theology, and Christian ethics at the Graduate School of Theology at Temple University and a visiting lecturer on Homiletics at Princeton and McCormick seminaries. Temple University honored him with a degree of Doctor of Divinity. His wife, Grace, was born in China of Welsh missionary parents. He has a daughter Judith Ann and a granddaughter, Gwendolyn Ann. He preached at the Columbus 1952 National.

The 1986 Program offered a look back at the 1952 National sponsored by the four year old Columbus Welsh Society. A description of the conducting of **Ann Davies Thomas**, that long and faithful servant of the National Gymanfa Ganu, seems to bring out the essence of a National Gymanfa Ganu (App. F),

“In the evening, Ann Davies Thomas held the audience under her spell and the movements of her hands played upon the audience as though it were a great organ-diminishing the sound to almost a whisper and increasing at times the crescendo into a grand magnavox of chords wherein the spirits of the songsters rose to lofty heights of spiritual expression,”

Her enthusiasm carried over following the 1952 evening session when the crowd began an exodus to the State Capitol where 3,000 singers gathered and sang into the night.

1987

St. Paul

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sep. 4, 1987 in St. Paul. The financial report showed a BOHEP of \$84,403.43. When combined with the balance in MMA and Checking Account (\$37,305.30) the total assets of the WNGGA came to \$121,708.73, the second time total WNGGA dollar assets exceeded \$100,000.

Tom Brownfield reported that the registration in Columbus ranged from 1,976 the formal registration to 2,300 for the afternoon session. **John Griffith, John L. Lewis** and **Barbara Morgan** reported on plans for the Baltimore 1988 National. Rooms at the Omni Hotel have been reserved (600) at rates ranging from \$49 to \$80.

Secretary **Llewellyn** reported the receipt of a \$1,000 bequest from Margaret Jenkins on behalf of Elma Jones, former WNGGA recording secretary who passed away in May of 1987. His motion that the bequest be placed in the endowment fund passed.

The secretary's motion that the \$2,000 given to the WNGGA by the Hebron Church in Chicago be placed in the endowment fund passed.

The total reported membership was 1,611 (1,577 life and 34 annual). The recently purchased computer was on line and 99% of the membership information was entered. **Tom Brownfield** donated an Epson printer that was used for printing labels.

Megan Lloyd reported that seven young people were able to attend this year's National due to the scholarships provided by WAY and the generosity of the WNGGA.

On the question of liability insurance, a motion carried to seek one million-dollar coverage. Suggestions that the possibility of umbrella coverage be explored to cover office equipment, that shopping around be conducted to secure the best price, and that approval be left to the Executive Committee were all part of the approved motion.

A motion carried to approve the Rules and Regulations for guidance of sponsoring committees.

The president said that only those whose names are on the letterheads should use letterheads. A motion carried making this policy.

Gwenfyl Jones requested clarification on the payment of expenses when the president and secretary travel to inspect sites and review plans with sponsoring committees. A motion carried that the National pay for these official visits.

President **David Thomas** reported that two trustees were honored with special prominence. **Dan Williams** received the Robert Morse [sic] Award. [This was the Robert Morris Award presented

by the Welsh Society of Philadelphia. Robert Morris was the financier of the American Revolutionary War.] **Myra Thomas Lawrence** was selected to be the leader of the exiles at this year's National Eisteddfod of Wales.

The president announced that the next meeting of the BOT would be at 7:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

The Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 5, 1987 in St. Paul. **Mae Howells Anderson** and her committee were complimented on their fine job "especially since there was such an obstacle of having the president residing in the vicinity". [I assume this was a joke.] **Tom Brownfield** reported for Columbus and said he had enjoyed having the Gymanfa in Columbus despite many new gray hairs.

Tim Boyle felt the stipulation that one had to be a citizen of the United States or Canada to qualify for scholarships should be lifted and accept citizens of Wales. It was explained that this was a North American organization to perpetuate our heritage in the U.S. or Canada.

The \$2,000 contribution to the Endowment Fund came from an anonymous source.

The Board of Trustees meeting was held at 7:30 a.m., Sept. 6, 1987. A letter from the National Welsh American Association [Foundation] told of their plans for participating in the upcoming celebration of Constitution Day (Sept 17, 1987) and asked for a contribution. A motion carried to contribute \$500 for this cause.

Owen Roberts was asked to report on his progress towards creating more interest among the Canadians to be more active in the WNGGA. Roberts reported he had contacted 14 organizations in Canada and was not pleased with the response. He felt it did help to make the contact and hopefully it would bring more interest. A long discussion on membership ensued.

A motion carried to contribute \$50 in support of *Enfys*. A motion was approved to standardize a \$5 registration fee.

The Fifty-sixth Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu of the United States and Canada, sponsored by the St. Paul '87 W.N.N.G. Committee, was held on Sep 3-6, 1987 in St. Paul. **Olwen Welk** who, along with **Ann Davies Thomas**, did so much for the informal singing, conducted a mini-gymanfa in the Landmark Center to introduce St. Paul shoppers and business people to the beauty of Welsh hymns. **Olwen**, from Ripon. has been a cymanfa leader for 30 years directing in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Oregon, and California, Indiana, and ten times in Minnesota.

Lindsey Evans of the National Trust of Wales was the guest speaker at the banquet with entertainment provided by the Abu Bekr Shrine Chanters. Minister of State for Wales **Wyn Roberts** made a presentation to **Gordon Evans** of the Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.

Bethan Bryn, a harpist from Aberystwyth, Wales; Taran, a folk group from Cardiff and **Janice Kimes** from St. Paul combined “their talents to provide an evening of varied musical pleasure” at the Saturday concert.

The preacher, **Rev. Vivian Jones** of Minneapolis, when recalling that five-foot-six-inches tall **Dylan Thomas** once described himself “about average height—for a Welshman”, guessed that in this matter, as perhaps in all others, he was not above average. This was the fifth appearance of **Gwyndaf Roberts** as gymanfa organist. Special music was provide during the sessions by **Dr. Samuel Jones** with the Children’ Choir and **Bethan Bryn**.

Chairman of The Wales Tourist Board, **Ifan Prys Edwards**, who was also the National President of Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Welsh League of Youth, was the speaker at the WAY luncheon. Welsh League of Youth, the world’s largest youth movement was founded by his father **Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards**.

The Program pictured a banner, designed by **Mae Howells Anderson** for the St. David’s Society of Minnesota, with the message “The Welsh have survived”. The Program also had the Prayer of Rev. Eli Jenkins in *Under Milk Wood* by **Dylan Thomas**. Seminars were becoming an important part of the Nationals.

The financial report for the St. Paul National showed income of \$73,273.63, disbursements of \$61,438.11 for net proceeds of \$11,835.52. Profit centers were the Noson Lawen, banquet, concert, seminars, box lunches, tours, and Program (when advertising and memorials are considered Program income) The 50% to WNGGA was \$5,917.76 less \$680 donated to World Hunger.

Commentary

The deaths of **David Edwards** and **Jack Meadows** closed out an era (1966-1983) of devoted service on the part of these two Welsh-Americans that saw the growth of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association to its present exalted state.

I mentioned the trickle down affect of holding Nationals at different locations in the United States and Canada. The Nationals attracted people to locations they may never have visited and there certainly were some economic benefits to local areas. The Nationals provided an avenue for retailers of Welsh merchandise to meet up with a market. The distribution of surplus among local Welsh organizations was, I’m sure, always greatly appreciated. This would not have happened if there was no Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

For the first time, WNGGA assets approached and exceeded \$100,000

The Welsh Market Place proved to be an extremely important and attractive addition to the Nationals. The Market Place provided an outlet for many retailers of Welsh merchandise and was always a scene of much activity.

The small Canadian membership was always an unstated concern. As recently as 2002, when I challenged a newly elected Canadian trustee to do something about Canadian membership, he suggested that the reason was the competition provided by the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association with their annual festival. This seemed to ignore the many annual gymanfaoedd spread throughout the United States. There was also a stated concern among some Canadians about the word “National” in the Association’s title. They seemed to feel it reflected only the United States. Attempts to rationalize that Canada and the United States, as well as Wales, were Nations seemed to have no effect.

These unstated concerns, unstated since no one wanted to upset sensitivities, also included the allocation of trustees with the establishment of the Board of Trustees. There seemed to be no rationale for the five allocated to Canada while the US West was authorized only three. This allocation resulted in disproportionate representation in Canada.

The first award of scholarships in 1984 was the beginning of one of the WNGGA’s most successful programs. Since then, over \$100,000 has been awarded in scholarships/grants to 54 individuals and 46 organizations. This is another example of the WNGGA being able to support a program on a scale beyond the normal capability of a local organization and one that covered both the United States and Canada. The WNGGA has been a major supporter of Welsh language training on the North American continent through annual language courses conducted by Cymdeithas Madog and the Welsh Harp Society of North America with its Welsh Heritage Week.

PART III-FUTURE

CHAPTER 13

More New Venues and A Warning (1988-1995)

Continued problems with WAY were not caused by a lack of financial resources. There was a lack of leadership and management ability that could have been expected.

The secretary was reporting the need for the board to be more zealous in demanding that the sponsoring committees follow guidelines and that the use of local talent should be encouraged as a cost control measure.

The first mid-year meeting was held in London, ON on 21 April 1990.

The afternoon session in Victoria was preceded by a series of unforgettable hilarious events that must be reported to prove that there is also fun during a National.

The Scholarship Program was changed to permit grants to non-profit organizations for activities consistent with the WNGGA Purpose. One of the 1993 scholarship recipients was **John Ellis** who, ten years later, became the third Executive Director of the WNGGA.

The serving presidents of the WNGGA and NWAFF became non-voting members of each other's boards.

The folk song book neared completion following a long process spanning six years.

Among the firsts at the National in Bellevue, WA (1994) were an eisteddfod, the incorporation of a narrative in the concert that required 16 pages of program notes, and a woman preacher.

A first occurred in Harrisburg (1995) when all were routed from the headquarters hotel by a fire alarm following the Saturday evening concert.

A major project started to reformat the hymnals by moving the words from separate sections below the music to their conventional position between the music staves.

A significant rewrite of the Constitution established a non-voting WNGGA Executive Director and revoked the voting privilege of the President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America.

A needed survey and study to determine the most desirable dates for the National was conducted with 57.4% of those surveyed in favor of continuing the Nationals on the Labor Day weekend

The National was becoming a high dollar adventure for the WNGGA, a small membership organization, and a local sponsoring committee. Gross proceeds in Wilkes-Barre (1993) exceeded \$160,000.

Membership of all types approached the 2,500 mark with 2,315 in the US, 143 in Canada, and 17 overseas.

1988

Baltimore

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 2, 1988 in Baltimore. **Barbara Morgan**, Chairman of the Baltimore Committee, reported about 1,500 registered at this time. **Don Mills** questioned the large sum of refunds on canceled registrations in the St. Paul report. **Mae Howells Anderson** said that was the way it happened and wondered if more exact rules on cancellations were needed.

The secretary reported an additional amount (\$464.62) from the Columbus National bringing the total received to \$3,908.47.

The National Welsh-American Foundation became an organization life member. The secretary purchased a wedding gift and presented it, on behalf of the WNGGA, to **Joan and David Mandry**.

The St. Paul National resulted in proceeds of \$5,917.76 to the WNGGA treasury. The National Trust of Wales was billed for \$1,189 for stationery, printing, and postage for the special mailing of their material to the WNGGA mailing list. The bulk mailing permit realized significant savings on mailing of 6,900 National related pieces since early June.

Current printing costs for hymnal were reported as \$17,986 for 10,000, \$25,687 for 15,000 and \$32,758 for 20,000.

The secretary wondered about holding an annual meeting of past, present, and future venue chairmen. The secretary felt that past presidents deserved a more tangible sign of recognition such as a pin or plaque.

The WNGGA financial report showed a **BOHEP** of \$33,271.38 in the Money Market Account which, when added to the general fund **BOHEP** of \$7,255.89, totaled \$40,527.27 in the operating accounts.

WAY had 9 members go on the Wales trip. **Megan Lloyd** reported 105 paid members in WAY and that WAY scholarships permitted three people to attend this year's National. They have \$896 in this fund and a motion carried to give WAY another \$500.

Paul Stevens reported that The Royal Insurance Company was selected and a WNGGA liability insurance policy (\$1,000,000) was in force at an annual premium of \$1,360.

A motion carried to take funds from the endowment fund for the printing of 10,000 additional hymnals. President **David Thomas** commented that funds should not be taken from the endowment fund for this purpose and a corrected motion specified funds from the general fund for this purpose.

A motion was adopted to extend the scholarship/grants program to non-profit organization members of WNGGA whose activities are consistent with WNGGA purpose and to update the rules and regulations accordingly.

A motion carried to transfer \$5,000 from the money market fund to the endowment fund.

An interpretation was accepted that ‘the fact that a person is selected to fill an unexpired term does not effect [sic] his or her right to be elected to 2 full 3 year terms as provided in Section (a) Article VIII of the Constitution’.

The National Welsh-American Foundation became a member of the WNGGA and has invited the president of WNGGA to be a non-voting member of their board. This was accepted.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday. Sept. 3, 1988 in Baltimore. **Mae Howells Anderson** reported highlights of the St. Paul National and turned over a check for \$5,917.26 The President reported little progress with the folk song book.

The President commented that **Dr. Mandry’s** marriage to **Joan Owen** made him the first trustee to be married while in office.

The Board of Trustees meeting was held at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Sep. 4, 1988 in Baltimore.

A report on the folk song book disclosed that one pound (£) will be charged for each song that is used from an established Welsh book and that work on the folk song book was a long process. **Gwenfyl Jones** felt the one pound charge was certainly fair.

New President **Paul Stevens** expressed pleasure about the liaison between the Welsh American Association [National Welsh-American Foundation] and the WNGGA and that this was the forerunner of including other groups that are interested in the WNGGA efforts. He established several goals including working with youth, supporting WAY and reaching Canada for more participation in the WNGGA.

Donna Davies suggested the gifts (honorariums) for officers be increased and wanted the subject brought up at an Executive Committee meeting.

A motion was approved to conduct a survey to determine how important it would be to make a change in the date of the National and requiring a report to be given at the first meeting in 1989.

The 57th Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Women’s Welsh Club of Baltimore and the St. David’s Welsh-American Society of Baltimore, was held on Sept. 1-4, 1988. The Program listed a Thursday evening Noson Lawen hosted by Welsh TV personality **Robin Jones** who was also the master of ceremonies for the banquet and compere for the Saturday evening grand concert. There was a marketplace and a tearoom, now standard activities.

Paul Loveluck, Chief Executive Officer, Wales Tourist Board talked about WAY’s Welsh Connection at the WAY luncheon. While the WAY audience may not have recognized it, a historic musical event was the singing of bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** at the WAY luncheon and the later concert. His sparkling display of vocal virtuosity and a flashing personality marked him for greatness by many in his widely appreciative audience. Bryn, winner of the Osborn Roberts Blue Riband at the

Porthmadog National Eisteddfod in 1987, was also recipient of the W. Towy Roberts Scholarship. He appeared with the Duvant Choir on their 1987 tour of the United States and Canada.

Côr Meibion Caernarfon, first prize winners at the National Eisteddfodau of Wales in 1972, 1975, 1976, and 1981, directed by **Gareth Hughes Jones**, was the feature of the grand concert. Soloists included mezzo-soprano **Mary Lloyd Davies**, bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel**, and harpist **Elinor Bennett**.

One half of the loose offering at the Sunday morning church service was directed to the Rehoboth Welsh Church in Delta, PA.

Dr. Carlton Jones Lake conducted the sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu and organist **Gwyndaf Roberts** made his sixth appearance at a National. For the first time, there was a Passing of the Flag at the end of the evening session. The Welsh flag, presented by **Nancy Miller** in memory of her father, was passed to representatives of the Pittsburgh National committee for the 1989 National.

1989

Pittsburgh

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 2, 1989 in Pittsburgh. **Barbara Morgan** gave her report on Baltimore. In response to a question regarding the huge expense of the Lyric Opera House (\$12,000), she explained the necessity of having a place with perfect acoustics

Don Mills suggested a shorter Noson Lawen, and shorter and simpler introductions.

The WNGGA financial report showed general fund assets to \$36,605.84. The WNGGA endowment fund financial report showed a **BOHBP** of \$89,398.84, **receipts** of \$12,305.17 (including \$110-contributions, \$5,000 from the WNGGA General Fund, and \$7,195.05-interest), **disbursements** of \$5,500 in scholarships for a **BOHEP** of \$96,204.01. A motion carried giving \$500 to WAY.

It was suggested and accepted that 10% of scholarship awards be withheld until recipients report on how the money was used.

A motion carried authorizing a \$6 registration fee for the Victoria National.

The membership survey found 57.4 % of the respondents saying no to a change of the National dates. A motion carried to send a questionnaire to non-member registrants. The responses (266) received from non-members on the membership survey, as reported at Victoria 1990, were very close (similar) to those of members.

Survey Results of Those Non-member Registrants Responding

(Balance or NR-No Response)

Age	72.6% age 50-79 / 13.9% age 20-49 / 9.4% age 80-90+
Marital Status	49.2% married / 34.2% single
Born in Wales	69.5% No / 26.7% yes / 3.8% NR
Welsh Descent	83.8% Yes / 10.9% No / 5.3% NR
Proportion Welsh	69.2% >50% / 9.4 %<50% / 21.4%
Speak Welsh	69.9% No / 27.8% Yes
Sing Welsh words in hymns	66.5% Yes / 28.6% No
Traveled to Wales	74.8% Yes / 21.8% No
Subscribe to Welsh-American newspaper	51.5% Yes / 45.1% No
Belong to local Welsh organization	49.2% Yes / 39.5% No
Attended the National Gymanfa Ganu	86.8% Yes / 9% No
How many Nationals	63.6% 1 to 4 / 22.6%>4
Seminars important	57.9% Yes / 2.3% No/ 22.9% No opinion
Tours important	57.3% Yes / 5.3% No/ 19.5% No opinion
Grand Concert important	80.8% Yes / 2.6% No/ 2.3% No opinion 14.3%NR
Noson Lawen important	69.5% Yes / 2.3% No / 12% No opinion
Awr Y Plant important	51.5% Yes / 1.9% No / 27.1% No opinion
Change date of National	46.6% No / 31.2% Yes / 22.2% NR
Support of WAY	62.4% Yes / 4.9% No / 32.7% NR
WNGGA local chapters	45.1% Yes / 16.2% No / 38.7 NR
Considered membership	45.9% Yes / 33.5% No / 20.7% NR

President **Stevens** discussed the amendment to the Constitution establishing the President of the National Welsh-American Foundation as an ex-officio Vice President of the Association and authorizing attendance at board meetings without a vote.

A motion was adopted to raise stipends (honorariums) for the secretary to \$1,000 and to \$300 each for the treasurer and recording secretary. A motion passed to have the sponsoring committee pay for requested planning and site inspection visits relative to the National. The WNGAA will pay reasonable expenses for visits of the executive committee.

The Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 2, 1989 in Pittsburgh. **Barbara Morgan** reported that the Baltimore committee part of the proceeds from the 1988 National was shared with the Women's Welsh Club of Baltimore and the St. David's Welsh American Society of Baltimore.

Douglas Jones expressed his opinion that immigrants should be able to get scholarships. The president asked for a point of order as the rules have been in effect for several years and that was the way it was.

Col. Alfred J. Reese Jr., President of the National Welsh-American Foundation, was introduced and assured the members that the two organizations were in complete accord and really complement each other. He pledged enthusiastic support.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sept. 2, 1989 in Pittsburgh. This meeting was devoted to an explanation of parts of the Membership Survey to be discussed at a later "rap" session. Item #15 concerned the change of the National date with most feeling the change was not warranted. Item #16 concerned WAY. There were suggestions on more support for WAY by having a member of WAY in each society, securing host families in Victoria for WAY members, and a letter to societies urging them to send a WAY delegate, age 20-25 to Victoria. Item #18 concerned more attendance, promoting relationships between local organizations and the WNGGA, and, possibly, a video for promotion of the WNGGA. Other items included the need for a WNGGA directory and a membership committee. [I was always amazed at the lack of a membership committee in a membership organization and the long time it took to get one. I will have more to say on this subject.]

This was the first BOT attended by the President of the National Welsh-American Foundation, **Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.**, in the capacity of an ex-officio Vice President of WNGGA.

The 58th Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh, was held on Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 1989 in Pittsburgh. The schedule of events followed the standard format with a Thursday Noson Lawen and a Friday banquet. There was a Saturday WAY Luncheon, Awr Y Plant, and grand concert with the North Wales Masonic Choir. The Sunday church service preceded two Gymanfa Ganu Sessions.

T. Gwynn Jones of Llanfairfechan; Wales, director of the North Wales Masonic Choir also conducted during the choir's last visit to the United States in 1987 when it performed at the NWAFF sponsored concert at the celebration of the Bi-centennial of the U. S. Constitution. in Philadelphia.

Net proceeds of the Pittsburgh National were \$11,514.12 with a 50% share (\$5,757.06) accruing to the WNGGA. The actual WNGGA share of the Pittsburgh proceeds came to \$5,812.49, becoming the largest amount to date. Analysis showed that the banquet, WAY luncheon, concert, tours, cassettes and buffet were profitable while the Noson Lawen, and seminars were slight losers.

A poem by **Esther Elias** of Pittsburgh appeared in the Program and **H. Clark “Dutch” Fitton’s** poem expressed the thought of many when first exposed to the Welsh language.

1990

London, ON

A Special Board of Trustees meeting was held, on April 21, 1990 in London, ON, in conjunction with the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Festival. This was the first of the annual mid-year meetings always held at the time and site of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Festival. These meetings afforded the opportunity to increase WNGGA visibility in Canada, to extend information on the annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu and to attract more Canadian membership.

Tom Brownfield gave a report on recent regional meetings. Predominant thoughts were the need for a newsletter, a membership directory and a directory of Welsh talent including music directors and organists. Suggestions also covered promotion of art forms and the formation of a membership committee.

A motion that the president be authorized to appoint a standing membership committee led to long discussion! Immediate Past President **Dave Thomas** commented that he did not want to create another committee and was concerned about the constitutionality of a new committee. The long discussion also covered the need for a new venue committee to relieve the secretary of this on-going task. A reworded motion carried ‘that the formation of a Membership Committee be formed to develop these measures.’ President **Stevens** said the following matters would be considered in Victoria: needed revision in the scholarship project, closer ties of WAY to the parent organization, strengthening the Canadian membership, and the hymnal and folk song book.

1990

Victoria, BC

Faye and I made our first drive across country to visit my son and his family in Olympia, WA. He and his wife, both in the US Air Force were stationed at McCord AFB and this was the first opportunity to see our new grandson. We took the car ferry from Seattle to Victoria. I was taking the NWAFF display booth to Victoria to avoid customs problems with surface shipment. It was in a black box approximately 5’L x 2’W x 1’D. While stopped at customs in Victoria, the customs agent asked me if I was carrying any guns into Canada. My no answer led to a pretty detailed explanation of the law and the penalties for violations. His repeated questions and my no answers were met with glances toward the back seat. I could almost sense one eye on me and one eye on the case. I then realized that

the display case was an ideal size for carrying shot guns and rifles. My explanation of what was in it led to a smiling wave on by the agent.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 31, 1990 in Victoria, BC. **David Taliesin Richards**, Chairman of the Cincinnati committee said a special effort would be made to attract Canadians to the 1991 National.

Secretary **Llewellyn's** report of 24 August 1990 commented on the great job of **David Lewis** who took over the Pittsburgh committee due to the illness of **John C. Williams**. He indicated that planning had gone well for Victoria in spite of committee members resigning. He reported that the Cox Lithographing Corp. filing for bankruptcy required fast action to move 2,300 hymnals and printing negatives to his garage to prevent their impounding. Sales of hymnals reduced the inventory to slightly under 800 and a new printing will be required soon.

Special recognition was given to **Mrs. David (Phyllis Parry) Keutgen** who had presented three flags –American, Canadian, and Welsh- to the Association in memory of her husband **David C. Keutgen** and **Dr. Benjamin Parry** and **Mrs. Laura Davies Parry** her parents. The flags, standards and bases would be available to the sponsoring committees.

A motion was adopted unanimously to allow up to \$3,500 for clerical assistance for the secretary. Kelly Girls were suggested since there would be no bother with withholding and other employee benefits.

Ellis Jones presented a proposed amendment to the Constitution authorizing a membership committee. Membership recruitment was always weak at the Nationals as evidenced by the suggestion that we have large signs at our stall to sell memberships and the call for volunteers to staff a membership table. [My early impression of membership work in the WNGGA was framed by an entry in the minutes of the Sept 1, 1989 BOT meeting. “A plea was made for people to help at the table to sell memberships—booth #23, please go there if you can spare some time.” This situation existed until the late 1990's when an adequately staffed WNGGA table was organized to sell publications and encourage memberships.]

Total WNGGA general fund assets were reported as \$40,418.39. The endowment fund balance of \$102,221.51 and the general fund balance of \$40,418.39 brought total WNGGA assets to \$142,639.99.

The Annual General Meeting was held in Victoria, BC on Saturday, Sept. 1,1990. **Don Mills** reported that the folk song book has been in the works for the past six years and he was hopeful of having one next year.

WAY has 84 members. The WAY financial report showed \$1,255.99 in the treasury with another \$183.50 expected from the Canadian account shortly. [Just imagine the confusion and delays

that would have resulted if the WNGGA treasury, servicing the majority of members and the bulk of money originating in the United States, was located in Canada.]

The proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for a Membership Committee was accepted. See App. K. [This was my first introduction to some of the ins and outs of WNGGA governance. The 1959 Constitution authorized the president to appoint a membership committee among others. This continued until the 1978 Constitution authorized the president to appoint any committees deemed necessary. In spite of this, it seemed to take a long time and a lot of discussion to develop a very detailed amendment prescribing a membership committee to carry out what should have been a basic function of a membership organization.]

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sunday morning, Sept.2, 1990 in Victoria, BC. Once again, the president appointed a nominating committee. [This violated the 1978 Constitution requirement that the nominating committee be elected by the BOT at the first meeting following the annual general meeting.]

In accordance with the very precise wording of the membership amendment, **Ellis Jones** was appointed Chairman with **Nelson Llewellyn** to serve on the committee with nine other members. Nine other members were to be found as follows: 2 found by **Myra Thomas Lawrence** from the West to serve with her for one year, 2 found by **Alfred Reese** from the East to serve with him for two years, and 2 found by **Rev. R. Cerwyn Davies** from Canada to serve with him for three years.

It was suggested that the sponsoring committee should report any plans to spend anything over \$500 for any talent. The secretary commented that the board would need to be more zealous in demanding that the sponsoring committee follow the guidelines provided them and local talent should be encouraged. [This was the first hint of the problems that occurred in Victoria.]

The 59th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by The Welsh Society of Victoria, BC, was held on Aug 30-Sept. 2, 1990. **Yvonne Griffiths-Evans** chaired the local committee. The Program was a 65 page 8 x10¾ glossy covered document, both the largest in size and content to date, and with photographic coverage of all the principals. The Prologue was taken from *Wales, Epic of a Small Country* by **Jan Morris**.

Brooded over by mist, more often than swirled about by cloud, drizzled rather than storm-swept, on the Western perimeter of Europe lies the damp, demanding and obsessively interesting country called by its own people Cymru, signifying it is thought a comradeship, and known to the rest of the world, if it is known at all, as Wales. It is a small country, in many ways the archetype of a small country, but its smallness is not petty: on the contrary, it is profound. Intense and unaccommodating continuity is the essence of the place, and if its frontiers were ever to be extended, or its nature somehow eased, its personality would lose stature, not gain it.

GYMANFA GANU

“Let the people praise Thee, O God;

Let all the people praise Thee”. Psalm 67:3

For over nineteen centuries Christians have sung Hymns of prayer and praise to the glory of God, The Father. Hymns are part of the priceless heritage of the Christian Church be it Wales or in America.

In Wales from the time of the Reformation (early 16th century) to the great methodist [sic] Evangelical Revival of the 18th century, only metrical psalms were chanted in the churches. Under the fiery evangelical preaching of Hywel Harris, Trefecca, Daniel Rowlands, Llageitho, and William Williams, Pantycelyn, the Welsh Methodist Revival swept throughout the land from 1735 onwards, and the New Movement changed the whole spiritual outlook of the nation. All classes, all ages shared in the Great Awakening, and thousands were led a Christian commitment by the zealous preaching and the inspired hymns that were introduced to the evangelistic gatherings. William Pantycelyn conceived the idea of providing hymns of praise for the people, as they could not repress their enthusiasm, and a worth medium was needed to proclaim their love and devotion to their Creator and Redeemer.

Pantycelyn’s hymns were written in the idiom of the people, and in their native tongue. In the exercise of his creative gift he composed 868 Welsh hymns and 122 English hymns, and in them is enshrined all the great truths and experiences of the Revival. He provided a treasury of hymnody that hold an honourable place amongst the most memorable and familiar of our hymns, to this day, and to God be the praise for the “Sweet Singer of Wales”.

“As Luther sang Germany into Protestantism, so did Williams sing the Wales of the 18th century in piety” Dr. Elvet Lewis.

Prejudice against hymn-singing in the chapels gradually disappeared, and congregational singing (canu cynulleidfaol) was accepted as a worthy vehicle of praise. Many of the popular folk songs of Wales were adapted to the new hymns. Local congregations came together for a “Festival of Praise” in Aberdare, Rhondda valley, in 1859, under the able direction of Rev. John Roberts, (Ieuan Gwyllt). This festival is claimed to be the first Gymanfa Ganu in Wales. Other Gymanfaoedd followed in various localities usually on Easter Monday or Whit Monday thus it became one of foremost traditions of Gwalia. The love of sacred songs is deeply embedded in the hearts of Welsh folk the world over. Early Welsh immigrants to America naturally brought their beloved Welsh bibles and Hymnaries with them. The chapel became the centre of the Welsh settlement activities, and the singing school (Ysgol Gan), where the hymns and anthems were practised was an important part of each Sunday’s activities. Congregations joined for prayer and Praise, and by the beginning of the 20th century the Gymanfa Ganu was well established in most, if not all, of the Welsh communities.

On Labour Day, 1929, the first Welsh American Gymanfa Ganu was held in Niagara Falls. New York, an ideal location for the Welsh from the United

States and Canada to meet and blend their voices in praise. It was a resounding success. Two more Gymanfaoedd were held at the Falls, and by the united efforts of men and women from both sides of the border, the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu was truly and firmly founded. Its purpose..."To preserve, develop and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage, including but not limited to the Gymanfa Ganu". Today, the WNGGA is supported by most of the Welsh communities of America.

There is a great unifying power in a Gymanfa Ganu for the Welsh, a real feeling of at-one-ness as they sing their beloved hymns; the last two lines of the chorus often doubled and trebled over and over again in a typical "Welsh Hwyl". As a nation we are truly blessed by the gift of voice and well harmonized melodies that complement our inspired songs of praise, our priceless heritage.

"Clodforwch bawb ein Harglwydd Dduw, Doed dynol-ryw i'w ganmol; Ei hedd, fel afon fawr ddi-drai, A gaiff ddyfrhau Ei bobol." Pantycelyn Hedd-Wyn Williams.

"Let everyone praise our Lord God, Let all mankind praise Him, His peace, like a mighty river shall assuage His people."

For the first time in a while, the program listed a complete Board of Trustees with 17 members, properly distributed. A Commemorative Plate was available at the Marketplace. The opening ceremony, with **Robin Jones** as returning master of ceremonies gave a sample of the weekend's entertainment provided by vocalists **Ifan Lloyd** and **Dafydd Edwards**, actor **David Ponting** on **Dylan Thomas**, the singing group CWLWM, and harpist **Robin Huw Bowen**. The opening fanfare was by cornetist **Alan Jacob**. The Friday evening Banquet, hosted by **Robin Jones**, had guest speaker **The Hon. Mel Couvelier** with entertainment provided by **Ken Edwards** of Victoria. [Somehow, neither Couvelier nor Edwards were further identified in the very detailed Program.] The Campus View Choir of Victoria and the Glenlyon-Norfolk School Children's Choir entertained at the Awr-Y-Plant. **Jonathan Jones**, Overseas Marketing Director, Wales Tourist Board was the guest speaker at the WAY luncheon which was also entertained by triple harpist **Robin Huw Bowen** and CWLWM. Côr Meibion Llanelli, under the direction of **D. Eifion Thomas**, presented their concert in the Royal Theatre supported by soloists soprano **Janice Davies Rees**, bass **Ifan Lloyd**, and tenor **Dafydd Edwards** and accompanist **Colin Jones**.

[The Memorial part of the Sunday morning church service was a close run thing. The last minute discovery that there were no roses required quick action to get them.

The concert and sessions of the Gymanfa, held in the Royal Theater, were enlivened with a series of unusual events.

During the intermission of the concert, a minister evidently asked for the opportunity to talk. He talked and talked and talked, in Welsh, and went on and on until the return of Côr Meibion Llanelli and the applause for their entry finally drove him off. Welsh speaking friends offered two different

versions of what he was concerned about, one being the inclusion of secular music (CWLWM) during the gymanfa and the other concerning the state of education in Wales.

There was a contest between two women on the placement of the signs designating audience seating by singing voices. The signs were in place when a lady came to the front of the stage and changed their position. Then a different lady came from behind the stage curtain and changed them back to their original position. This may have occurred once more before agreement was reached.

Sounds suggesting open warfare or a riot broke out in the balcony. After a while, it was determined that the lights in place for TV coverage were shining directly in the eyes of those in the balcony.

There was no shortage of entertainment, an unusual Program, a non-selling Commemorative Plate and other things that may have contributed to the financial problems to be described later. The luxurious Empress Hotel, and its scenic location at the head of Victoria's Inner Harbor, was one of the highlights.]

1991

Niagara Falls, ON

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees meeting was held in Niagara Falls, ON, on May 4, 1991, in conjunction with the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Festival. Secretary **Nelson Llewellyn** gave a disturbing report on the Victoria National of 1990. He was unable to obtain any kind of a report from the chairman of the local sponsoring committee. He reported having "had a most difficult time regarding this event." He strongly urged "that everything in our power should be exercised to eliminate this behavior in the future". President **Don Mills** said he would be communicating with Mrs. **[Yvonne Griffiths] Evans** regarding the report.

Roy Morris reported his work on the Talent Directory. Vice President **Dr. Ellis Jones** reported on membership plans. A price break for members was suggested—members registration fee \$5, non-members \$10.

Megan Lloyd reported for WAY and some of its problems. She felt that a change of the date for the National would encourage more young people to attend. A separate event for the young at another time may be the solution. A committee was appointed to study the problems of WAY.

1991

Cincinnati

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 30, 1991 in Cincinnati. Secretary **Llewellyn** reported briefly concerning Victoria and the difficulty that he had to obtain a report of any kind.

The treasurer's report showed a \$1,189.80 **reimbursement** from the National Trust Fund (Wales) for their special mailing, **disbursements** of \$21,334.87 (including \$2,340-office rent, \$3,520-insurance, \$5,000-printing hymnals, \$3,200-two months gifts to Secretary (\$2,000), Treasurer (\$600) and Recording Secretary (\$600), for a checking account **BOHEP** of \$1,814.34. The MMA **BOHEP** was \$32,300.33. When added to the balance in the checking account of \$1,814.34 the balance in the General Fund was \$34,114.67. The endowment fund **BOHEP** was \$107,466.60 with an estimated income of \$6,500 for 1992. When combined with the general fund balance of \$34,114.67, total assets of the WNGGA were \$141,581.27.

There was a long discussion concerning jurisdiction and influence of the board working with venue committees.

One of the important results of the membership survey led to the establishment of Welsh Associated Organizations. An informal meeting of groups, started at the Pittsburgh 1989 National, became the Roundtable Breakfast and came under WNGGA sponsorship. Vice President **Dr. Ellis Jones** reported on membership and the first WNGGA Roundtable held in Cincinnati with representatives of local societies. He felt this was a good avenue to pursue to show interest in membership in the local societies. The current reported membership was 1,845 individual life, 20 annual, and 38 organization life for a total of 1,903 members.

A preliminary report and registration listing had been received from Victoria. A check for \$2,028.78, as partial payment for printing and mailing for the Victoria committee, was also received. A promised audited report was forthcoming. The cost of printing 5,000 hymnals was \$9,770 plus \$165 for a varnished cover. A deposit of \$5,000 was sent to the printer leaving a balance due of \$4,935.

Jemma Kennedy reported 100 members in WAY and that they raised the age limit to 39.

President Mills reported on the folk song book. He said he had 65 folk songs and permission to put 37 into the book. **Lloyd Savage** and **Joan Mandry** were to take over the project with **Tom Brownfield** providing computer support. A fee of \$150 to \$200 for copyright releases was anticipated. The president gave great credit to **Roy Saer**, the Assistant Keeper of two Welsh folk museums, for his diligent efforts to make this possible. The president hoped to have a folk song book ready in time for the Kansas City 1992 National.

President **Mills** reported, with deep regret, the passing of **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones**, a past president, and **Ann Davies Thomas**. Both will be sorely missed.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Aug. 31, 1991 in Cincinnati. [This was one of the most routine annual general meetings recorded.]

President **Mills** reported that "the folk song book project started in 1984 is about to come to fruition. "

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 1, 1991 in Cincinnati.

Nancy Miller continued as chair of the endowment/scholarship committee with **Meirwyn Walters** assisting on investments and **Iris Rees** on administration.

Jemma Kennedy reported that WAY had lost a WNGGA check for \$500.

Alfred Reese suggested that the new folk song book be dedicated to **Ann Davies Thomas** and **Rev. John Owen**.

A motion passed to have a national newsletter. Motions were approved to make a \$100 contribution to *Enfys*, to take out a \$100 ad in the NWAFA Annual Recognition Dinner Program and a \$50 NWAFA membership.

The resolution on changing the date of the National to sometime in July was tabled until the next meeting.

The 60th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu sponsored by the Welsh Society of Greater Cincinnati, was held, on Aug 29-Sept 1, 1991, in Cincinnati. **David Taliesin Richards** was chairman of the local committee. There was a Gymanfa Ganu Run on Sunday morning. **Rev. Lincoln Jones Hartford**, Chaplain and Professor of Religion at Teikyo Westmar University in LeMars IA, led the Sunday morning church service. Dr. Hartford's doctoral dissertation was on Welsh hymn singing, an extensive study of the subject. He is the author of *Welsh Hymn Singing*. The Saturday Concert presented the Morriston Orpheus Choir, under Director **Alwyn Humphreys**, with soloists soprano **Rhian Owen** and mezzo-soprano **Leah-Marian Jones**.

The vases, used during the Memorial Service, were dedicated at the Sunday Morning Bilingual Church Service.

The sessions of the gymanfa were held in the Cincinnati Music Hall. **Delyth Hopkins Evans** of Pontrhydygroes, Wales performed double duty as the Gymanfa conductor and soprano soloist with special music provided by the Morriston Orpheus Choir.

The Program contained the following memorials:

We Remember...

Ann Davies Thomas who died in Salt Lake City this past Christmas Eve. Among her many musical accomplishments, as director of a Welsh-American Good Will Choir, was a command performance to Her Majesty the Queen. But she will be most fondly remembered as Director of three National Gymanfas; Columbus '52, Salt Lake City '55 and Cleveland '74. She was Honorary Director of the 50th Anniversary Gymanfa at Niagara Falls, in 1979. Ann was Editor of the Gymanfa Hymnals now in use. Her enthusiasm for Welsh hymn singing was evident still at Victoria '90. Ann personified the essence of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu and will be greatly missed

The Program also recalled an incident at Shandon, OH that served as a reminder of the Legend of Paddy's Run.

A TRAGEDY

An article in the Program, by W. Middleton Davis, Pastor of the Congregational Church in Shandon, OH, recalled the tragedy that occurred at Paddy's Run on November 16, 1854. The essence of the account was as follows.

A new church was being constructed, a beam broke and the steeple fell causing the ultimate death of seven of the builders. One, Jacob Phillis, "who survived only a few weeks, said he dreamed a few nights before the accident that it happened. The present church "is a living tribute to the determination and firm purpose of its founders and builders...that led the people of this valley through tragedy to triumph."

[Paddy's Run was the destination of a group of Welsh farmers who had emigrated from the Cardiganshire area of Wales. In late summer 1818, they were flat boating down the Ohio River heading for Paddy's Run when they decided to spend the night at a French settlement near present day Gallipolis, OH. The French shopkeepers and merchants were hoping the travelers would decide to settle there. The wily French contrived to hold a celebration that evening at which the wine flowed freely. While the unsuspecting Welsh were sleeping off the celebration, the French unloaded the flatboats and set them free down the river. When the Welsh awoke, their womenfolk decided they had had enough and they found themselves the beginning of Welsh farming in Gallia and Jackson counties in Ohio.]

The financial report (one of the best reports) from Cincinnati showed **income** of \$109,215.53 (including \$8,265-preregistrations @ \$7.50 and \$672-walkups at Music Hall; \$3,138-Noson Lawen-523 @ \$6; \$15,600-banquet with 600 @ \$26; \$22,818.15-Concert with 1062 preregistrants @ \$15, 12 walkups at hotel @15 and \$6,708.15 at the Music Hall Box Office; \$2,336-choir reception 584 @ \$4; \$288-Sunday morning run 24 @ \$12; \$7,572-Sunday Buffet 631 @ \$12; \$22,098-tours; \$1,765-seminars and workshops; \$2,738.50-memorials, \$3,172-contributions, \$2,000-corporate gifts; and \$2,575 Marketplace booth rentals), **expenses** of \$101,876.86 (including \$6,487.31-registration-\$1,489.90 and Program Book-\$4,997.41; \$7,375.07-Music Hall; \$1,184-Noson Lawen; \$19,290.97-concert with \$10365-Morrison Choir,\$6,816.91-Music Hall, \$826-advertising, \$1,280-shuttle service; \$4,436.53-Choir reception with \$1,171.48-Music Hall and \$3,265.05 Champagne and Chocolates; \$14,482.61-Banquet; \$15879.83-Tours; \$6,650.81-buffet; \$854.53-seminars; \$922.24-Host Committee's party; \$3,082.34-3 tape set; \$2,275-Honorariums for a **surplus** of \$7,338.67.

1992

KINGSTON, ON

A Board of Trustees meeting was held in Kingston on Saturday, April 24, 1992 during the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association festival.

Secretary **Nelson L. Llewellyn** was unable to attend having had quadruple by-pass surgery on April 2 and readmittance to the hospital on April 22.

While progress was being made on the folk song book, it will not be ready for Kansas City. The committee will have a mini book of 10-12 tunes ready for use in Kansas City. **President Mills** said the copyright clearances cost about £5.

John Lloyd, President of WAY reported that they are going to change their focus with a newsletter to cover items that will give more of a Welsh background to their members to keep their interest. They want to mentally hold their age group, 13 to 39, together. **Megan Lloyd** brought up the subject of changing the date of the National. Labor Day is the holiday celebrated by both Canada and the United States. Megan said that after thought she dropped the subject.

Dr. Ellis J. Jones reported working with **Pat Viets** on the 1991 Fall issue of *HWYL*. He has prepared the 1991-92 Directory. Ellis felt the following should be given some attention:

Print a new hymnal with all the words in the music.

Change the dues structure

Review the relationship between the WNGGA and the local venue committee to avoid misunderstandings.

Plan for strengthening the bonds between the Welsh associated organizations and the WNGGA

Review and update of the basic WNGGA informational brochure

1992

Kansas City, MO

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 4, 1992 in Kansas City, MO. **Joan Mandry** reported that they selected 80 songs for the folk song book and hope to have it ready for Wilkes-Barre in 1993.

Executive Secretary **Nelson L. Llewellyn** reported receipt of a \$10,000 bequest from the **Mrs. David [Chris] Edwards** estate and depositing it in the MMA pending board action on its disposition. [Chris was the widow of **David Edwards**, WNGGA treasurer 1966-1983.)] The secretary has received a notice of a forthcoming bequest from the will of **Elizabeth Griffiths**, Chairman of the Philadelphia 1976 committee.

Renewal of Officer and Corporation Insurance resulted in a 40% increase in premium. Nelson was working with the insurance company to have the premium reduced.

Final payment was made for printing of 5,000 hymnals at \$9,935 or \$1.987 per hymnal. There are 3,010 hymnals in stock and hymnals sell at \$3.50 plus P/H and UPS charges. The cassette tapes from the 1979 (Jubilee) and 1990 (Victoria) Nationals are still available at \$3.00 and \$10, respectively, plus P/H and postage. There are still 45 of the three-record albums from the 1976 National, that could be a collector's item, at \$15 plus P/H and postage.

Membership stands at 2,030 life (1,850 U. S., 131 Canada, 6 overseas and 43 organization) and 48 annual for a total 2,078

An audited financial report was not received from Victoria and there was no word from the Victoria committee. The secretary of the sponsoring committee assured that the organization was working to obtain the records and documents that they hope will provide information so that they may be able to come up with an audited report.

In October 1991, the secretary visited **Ellis Roberts**, the venue chairman for the 1993 National, at his home in Wilkes-Barre. Roberts was ill and unable to attend the Wilkes-Barre committee meeting. Roberts passed away shortly after the visit. **Jack Pritchard** became the Wilkes-Barre venue chairman.

Fifty (50) requests were received for scholarship applications from 5 organizations and 45 individuals. Five scholarships were awarded.

WAY President **Gwyneth Mason** reported difficulty with communications among members and officers. **Ellis Jones** suggested a review of the WAY structure and asked for a copy of their by-laws.

Paul Stevens reported that \$720 had been awarded WNGGA by UPS because of their failure to deliver hymnals to Victoria. [They were delivered to Vancouver, BC] requiring the printing of hymnals locally for use during the Victoria National.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 5, 1992 in Kansas City. **David T. Richards**, co-chair of the Cincinnati committee, reported they realized \$7,800 with 50% going to the WNGGA. He said the concert brought in \$7,000, tape sales produced a deficit and that tours were very popular and lucrative.

President Mills wanted all to remember **Mair Monkhouse**, a former trustee, and past President **Gwyn Parri**.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 6, 1992 in Kansas City, MO. New President **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** brings 22 years experience as National Executive Director of another non-profit organization, Delta Pi Epsilon. He established 12 objectives:

Completion of the folk song book.
Completion of the talent resources list.
Review of WNGGA governing documents.
Reformatting of the hymnal.
Review of the rules and regulations for sponsoring committees.
Substantial increase in membership efforts.
Review of the scholarship program.
Increased and improved ties between WNGGA and associated organizations.
Increased intra-organization communication by means of *HWYL*.
Review of ties between WNGGA and WAY.
Continued strengthening of ties between NWAFF and the Women's Welsh Clubs.
Such other activities as deemed needed.
He assigned top priority to the first six objectives.
An additional \$500 was contributed to WAY.

The 61st Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Heart of America Welsh Societies, St. David's Society of Greater Kansas City, The St. David's Society of the State of Kansas, St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska, Iowa Welsh Society, and the Missouri Valley Folklife Society was held in Kansas City, MO on Sept. 3-6, 1992.

A Dedication to **Ann Davies Thomas (1902-1990)**, written by **Jack Nesbitt**, Chairperson, 1992 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, appeared in the Program See App. F.

Friday's 4th Annual Welsh Roundtable Breakfast provided an opportunity for leaders of the North American Welsh community to get to know each other, exchange ideas and discuss items of common interest.

Dr. Eric Gwynne-Thomas, Professor Emeritus, University of Missouri at Kansas City and Past President of the St. David's Welsh Society of Greater Kansas City was the guest speaker for the Friday evening banquet. His subject was "Welsh Americans and the Gymanfa Ganu".

The Saturday WAY luncheon included a Laura Ashley, LTD, Fashion Show. The Ardwyn Singers (Cantorion Ardwyn), under the direction of **Helena**

Braithwaite, the first mixed voice choir from Wales, was featured in the Saturday evening Gala Concert.

Rev. Dr. William T. Jones preached “a ‘strong’ sermon in the Welsh tradition at the Sunday church service. **Sara and Mary Nesbitt** assisted Executive Secretary **Nelson Llewellyn** in his conduct of the Memorial Service.

WNGGA Endowment Chairman **Nancy Miller’s** presentation of the Welsh Flag to the WNGGA and the Victoria Welsh Society’s gift of the Chairperson’s Chain of Office were acknowledged in the Program.

The Chairperson’s Chain of Office was a bronze chain with an attached medallion. The medallion was engraved with a Celtic cross symbolic of the spiritual backdrop of the Association’s annual gathering, the dragon, heraldic symbol of Wales, a ‘handshake’ representing the friendship and fellowship experienced within our community and the sea which separates the old homeland from the new.

The Program contained a memorial to Mair Monkhouse.

IN MEMORIUM

With fond memories of Mair Monkhouse who died Feb. 20, 1992. Mair, a native of Ruthin, North Wales, was President, for many years, of the St. David’s Welsh Society of Buffalo, New York. She was also a longtime member of the Board of Trustees for both the National and Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association. Mair, who resided in Fort Erie, ON. , with husband Reg., is sadly missed by her many friends in the Buffalo Welsh Society.

1993

Windsor, ON

A Mid-Year Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Saturday, 24 April 1993 in Windsor, ON in conjunction with the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association (OGGA) Welsh Festival.

Two items will be added to the agenda for discussion in Wilkes-Barre: **Dave Thomas** proposal to have an abbreviated Gymanfa, possibly mid-year, and **Earl Williams, Jr.** proposal to include an Eisteddfod in the National.

Joan Owen-Mandry reported that approximately 25 songs have been received for the folk song book free of copyright charges. The book will be 8 1/2 by 11 and **Dr. Mandry** will be credited for designing the cover. A motion was approved that 5,000 be printed at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 with the executive committee setting the selling price. A motion carried that the work of **Joan Owen-Mandry** and **Lloyd Savage** be acknowledged in the front of the Folk Song Book. Certificates will be presented to them at the National.

On a discussion of the endowment fund, a question arose as to why the balance \$95, 623 was below \$100,000. [I was not able to trace this question. The endowment fund report, as of 30 June 1993, showed a **BOHEP** of \$104,858.77.] **Paul Stevens** will be asked to check into the tax-exempt

status of the WNGGA. [This question seems to come up at the venue level. The tax-exempt status granted by the IRS has nothing to do with sales taxes levied by the States. Relief from sales taxes requires a separate action with the individual States.]

1993

Wilkes-Barre

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sept. 3, 1993 in Wilkes-Barre.

Jack Nesbitt reported on the responses received from the survey sheets distributed in Kansas City. Respondents were impressed firstly with the Market Place. The Sunday singing sessions and the Chapel came in second and third. Seminars on Welsh culture came in fourth. The Cantorion Ardwyn Singers were well received. He presented a check for \$7,500 [largest amount to date] as the WNGGA share of the net proceeds. Other responses included:

All possible events should be held in the headquarters hotel. This makes it more convenient for the handicapped and elderly,

A suggestion was made that the WNGGA have special tapes made of the favorite hymns- the various parts- one tape for sopranos, one for altos, etc. a church does it and it helps the various people learn to sing their specific parts. If these were available we could practice as we are driving to and from work.

Limit the time of the Noson Lawen. Possibly limit the amount of time each performer is on the stage. In the past, the Noson Lawen has been too long.

The visiting choirs should sing more Welsh. If we do not want to hear Welsh singing there are any numbers of outstanding choirs in the United States.

Let's have another printing of the "phonetic" hymnal.

The "venue" committee should have a letter inclosed in the (registration) packet explaining that people should trade in their banquet tickets for specific tables, and make contact with their friends before asking for table assignments.

When invitation letters are composed they should include directions from the various main highways leading to the hotels. This would be a tremendous help to those driving.

Limit the number of new hymns sung at each National to two.

The banquet should be scheduled for 7:30 instead of 7:00, thereby allowing a little more time for the local people that will be working.

Alan Upshall reported they are planning an Eisteddfod at the 1994 Bellevue, WA National.

The treasurer's report showed checking account **BOHBP** of \$5,129.71, **receipts** of \$17,451.53 (including \$4,005-dues, \$4,258.13-hymnal sales, and \$5,000 proceeds from Kansas City. An

additional \$2,500 was received not included in these totals), **disbursements** of \$17,422.92 (including \$2,160-office rent, \$2,914-insurance, \$1,600 in gifts to secretary, treasurer, and recording secretary and \$915- to cover advertising in *Ninnau*- (\$630) and *Y Drych*- (\$285) for a checking account **BOHEP** of \$5,158.32. The MMA showed **BOHBP** of \$38,572.51, **receipts** of \$10,325-**Elizabeth Griffiths** estate and interest of \$1,082.21 for a MMA **BOHEP** of \$49,980 40. When the checking account balance and the MMA balance are combined the General Fund of the WNGGA is \$55,138.72.

The secretary thanked the board for authorizing clerical help and two ladies were available for part time work. The Officer and Corporation insurance was renewed at \$1,000,000 liability at a high rate that he was trying to reduce.

The two bequests (**Chris Edwards** and **Elizabeth Griffiths**) still await board action on their disposition. President **Ellis Jones** suggested that the two bequests could be a starter of a hymnal revision fund that could serve as a memorial to the two donors. Reformatting of the hymnal will be required and a target date of 2004 (75th Anniversary) was set.

The president suggested that we ought to set up a contingency fund of \$20,000, \$50,000, or \$100,000 or forget about it.

He arranged for printing and mailing of newsletter (second and third issues?) to members.

Selling price for the hymnal was \$3.50 plus P/H charges for quantity orders and \$4.00 plus \$1 postage for single copies. A good supply of the Jubilee tapes was still on hand at \$3.00 and the 1990 tapes at \$10 both plus P/H. Still have 35 of the 1976 [1966] San Francisco 3 record albums on hand at \$15 plus \$3 P/H

Membership now stands at 2,127. (United States-1,995 [1946 Life, 9 Annual, and 40 WAO], Canada-126 [119 Life and 7 Annual) and overseas 6 [5 Life and 1 WAO] The leading member States in the East are OH-433, PA-360, NY-152, WI-136, MN-96, FL-64 and IL-62. The leading member States in the West are CA-98, WA-29, MO-29, KS-27, OR-27, and CO-25. For Canada, the leaders are ONT at 83 and BC at 25.

The Secretary reported continued concern over the final outcome of the activities in Victoria. It was reported that everything seemed to be in order [in Victoria], that dissension developed and the committee "began to deteriorate, with most of the work left to one family". Everything seemed to be going well on the surface and many felt it was an outstanding gymanfa. There were no liabilities to the knowledge of anyone on the board. An unaudited report showed that receipts of \$99,199.68 and expenses of \$99,199.68. The National is still owed money for printing and mailing. A motion carried to close the matter without prejudice

[A review of pertinent correspondence from the archives provides some sense of the problems encountered in Victoria.

A letter, dated 11 October 1990, from **Douglas Jones** commented on the poor arrangements at Victoria, age of members, travel problems, and that we are going to great expense to import talent from Wales: Choirs, conductors, preachers, masters of ceremonies, etc. rather than doing here much

cheaper. [We are] getting away from original intent of 1929 to hold a gymanfa ganu and a Noson Lawen and no more than a friendly Welsh get together. “Welsh culture is one thing, but we can get lost paying more attention to what I have said above than a more friendly Welsh gathering.”

A letter, dated 27 October 1990, from **Cullian (?) Harwood** enclosing a letter from **Mr. Norman Webster** regarding an unfortunate situation which arose during the recent Gymanfa Ganu. Webster’s letter, not included in material found in the WNGGA archives, apparently referred to a conflict between the venue committee and the Welsh Society of Victoria.

A WNGGA letter, dated 31 Oct 1990, to the Chair of the local committee reminded of the need for an audited financial report and that “your relationship with the Sponsoring Organization is very important and needs to be harmonious. It is hoped that this harmony has and will work both ways and that the Welsh Society of Victoria will support your efforts to the end.”

A letter, dated 2 April 1991, from **Stephen Long**, secretary of The Welsh Society of Victoria over the society’s concerns over the local venue committee for the 59th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu held in Victoria. He reported repeated requests for an interim financial statement from the chairman of the venue committee who refuses saying she is answerable only to the WNGGA. She refuses to refund the \$10,000 seed money provided by the society and has indicated that there may not be money available to make the repayment. The letter requested clarification of its status, to whom the local venue committee is responsible and about repayment of the loan.

A letter, dated 19 August 1991 sent the WNGGA secretary drafts of cash receipts and expenses, a check for \$2,028 to WNGGA to pay printing costs and promising auditor signed financials. The letter said that if the 1990 National had been held in the US it would have been a very profitable one. “What you must understand is: in Victoria we must pay top dollar for conventions and do not get complimentary rooms and facilities as you do in the United States.” The letter continued reporting they were unable to pay printing cost of \$3,244 in full as ‘we only have a balance of \$2,028.’ The letter also stated that, excluding Nelson, support was hard to come by (from WNGGA) [The Victoria National] would have been in a profitable position if they had not had to pay an additional \$3,000 at last minute because of WNGGA failure to provide hymnals. See action to recover shipping costs from UPS. WNGGA should take some responsibility.

The results at Victoria, the full extent still not known to this date, should have provided a warning of what could go wrong when total responsibility was left with a venue committee. Successes at the remaining Nationals, reported on in this chapter, may have relegated Victoria as an aberration. It was soon to become greatly apparent that sufficient direct and detailed supervision was required starting with the initial planning phase and continuing through completion of the National. How difficult this was to be was also to become apparent.]

Secretary Llewellyn brought up the subject of the 75th Anniversary National Gymanfa Ganu to be held in Niagara Falls, NY and that planning should begin. The long awaited Folk Song Book is ready for sale.

Two very active members passed away: **Morris L. Wrench**, past trustee and gymanfa conductor, and **Owen C, Roberts**, a past trustee and past president of the WNGGA. An announcement was made of the passing of **Rev. Dr. Gwyn Walters**, two days before this meeting.

A motion carried to authorize three sets of Programs, bound if appropriate, to be distributed one each to the WNGGA archives, The National Library of Wales, and the Balch Institute of Ethnic Studies in Philadelphia.

Negotiations led to the printing of 2,500 copies of the Folk Song Book at \$10,000, more than the hoped for 5,000 at \$10,000.

Two \$1,500 scholarships were awarded for 1993: **John Ellis**, studying at Boston College and journalist **Alfred Siewers** studying at the University of Wales at Aberystwyth.

WAY President **John Lloyd** reported WAY operations suspended so no funds were spent. Members expressed very little interest and another person needs to be found to take over. Dr. **Megan Lloyd** said we “do not seem to be addressing the problem of attracting younger adults at the national level. She suggested we think about forming a Welsh study concept where academic and WAY members could address their interest in another way. The University of Rio Grande in southern Ohio is interested in hosting such a conference. Discussion continued on the future of WAY.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Sept. 4, 1993 in Wilkes-Barre.

Paul Stevens reported that the endowment fund should realize a return of 6.5% for the coming year. **Nancy Miller** reported that 70 inquiries were received resulting in 12 scholarship applications with two awarded.

A question regarding “double dipping”, by those who are awarded scholarship and/or grants by both the WNGGA and the NAAF, was to be addressed at a later meeting.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees took place at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 5, 1993 in Wilkes-Barre.

A motion carried that the bequests of **Elizabeth Griffiths** and **Chris Edwards**, in the total amount of \$20,000, be placed in a fund for the revision of the Welsh hymnal. An amendment that \$7,500 from each bequest be so designated was defeated. A motion carried to have any accrued interest and funds deposited from the sale of hymnals also placed in the hymnal fund.

Another discussion of WAY, its organization, lack of activity, and its resources resulted in an adopted motion giving the executive committee authority to act on the matter of WAY and report back to the board. **Col. Reese** suggested that WAY funds, estimated to be \$10,300, be placed in escrow until WAY is better organized.

Once again, Article VII of the Constitution was ignored when the President **Jones'** suggestion that the nominating committee be composed of three past presidents was accepted. [This suggestion

was later adopted in the 1994 Constitution that designated the three most recent and available past presidents would make up the nominating committee.]

Alan Upshall asked if a plaque with appropriate words could be made for presentation to retiring National Presidents and was told the Executive Committee can work out the detail. [As far as I know, nothing was ever done to recognize past presidents other than the earlier mentioned lapel pins for trustees and presidents.]

The 62nd Welsh National Gymnafa Ganu, under the auspices of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and the St. David's Society of Wyoming Valley, Inc. was held on Sept. 2-5, 1993 in Wilkes-Barre. There were Memorials in the Program for **Ellis Wynn Roberts**, Ph. D., **Owen C. Roberts**, and **Morris L. Wrench**.

Ellis Roberts, 1911-1991, who was the first chairman of the 1993 Wilkes-Barre Committee, died on November 1, 1991. He was honored with the renaming of the South Street Bridge in Wilkes-Barre as **Dr. Ellis W. Roberts** Bridge and with plaques to be attached to the bridge.

The 1993 Northeastern Pennsylvania National Gymanfa Ganu NEWSLETTER, a first, reported that Dr. Roberts was the leader who led the way in saving the bridge when it was threatened with elimination. The plaques, dedicated at the Civic Welcome ceremony, read:

Ellis W. Roberts, Ph.D.

Welsh-American

1911-1991

Educator * Poet

Author * Historian

“A fo ben; bid bont”

“To be a leader; build a bridge”

Extracts from The Memorial in the Program recalled that **Ellis W. Roberts**, Ph. D., was an active member of the St. David's Society of Wyoming Valley, Inc., and an influential member of the 1983 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Committee. Born in Wilkes-Barre, son of Hugh and Ellen Williams Roberts, immigrants from Wales, Dr. Roberts graduated from local schools and the University of Alabama and received his Master of Arts degree and doctorate in Philosophy from New York University. He was an educator, author, community leader, teacher at Penn State and New York Universities and later president and owner of Wilkes-Barre Business College.

He was a board member and president of Osterhout Free Library and Wyoming Historical & Geological Society and was on the board of Franklin First Savings Bank of Wilkes-Barre. Among

many board seats he occupied were those of the National Welsh-American Foundation, member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre, and president and board member of the Wyoming Valley Council of Churches He was a life member of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

He authored several books of poetry [including *Along the Susquehanna*] and wrote and published novels [*Flames and Embers of Coal* published by the NWAFA] pertaining to Welsh activities having an impact on this community and the Welsh influence on the anthracite industry in this area. [His works also included anthracite history, *The Breaker Whistle Blows*, and ethnic history *Journey Through Welsh Hills and American Valley.*]

A gentleman of outstanding ability and integrity, a promoter of all things Welsh, a scholar, church and community leader...proud of his Welsh heritage and enthusiastic in its preservation, a man of sterling character, of ability, of piety, Dr. Roberts will be missed by his devoted family, by the Welsh community in this area and by all organizations and individuals with whom he came in contact.

OWEN C. ROBERTS

1916-1993

Owen C. Roberts was born in Montreal, Canada and served as Past President and Trustee of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association

Like so many of the Welsh, Owen was a poet at heart and a gentleman to his many friends.

A man for all seasons and all who knew him will miss him greatly. Owen visited Wales often and became fluent in the Welsh language. His pride reflected on us and kept us mindful, lest we forget. Owen served his country during World War II. He also served the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association well and faithfully from 1959 until his death.

MORRIS L. WRENCH

1904-1993

Morris L. Wrench was born in Wales and emigrated to North America as an early age.

Morris will long be remembered for his dedication to the Welsh community of North America in the sharing of musical talents with all who knew and loved him.

For many years Morris served the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association as a Trustee. He also directed several National Gymanfas. Morris served his country (The United States) during World War II. Morris was proud of his rich Welsh heritage and it was apparent in his activity with the Welsh Community until his death.

The Wilkes-Barre venue NEWSLETTER provided updated information, shuttle bus service schedules, emergency numbers, info on where to shop and restaurants, a map and a list of contributions received after printing the Program

Dafydd Iwan, Welsh folk singer, was featured during a Welsh Folk Music Evening following the Thursday evening Noson Lawen. Iwan, one of Wales's greatest promoters of the Welsh language, also manages Sain Records of Wales.

The Fifth Annual Round Table, now sponsored by the WNGGA, was held on Friday morning.

Howard Stringer, President of CBS Broadcast Group, was the guest speaker at the grand banquet and there were vocal selections by **Jane B. Ventre**. The Saturday concert had a mixed cast of harpist **Robin Huw Bowen**, soprano **Diana Bennett**, baritone **Keith R. Wagner**, pianist **Joel Paul Jones** and The Parish Singers.

WNGGA Secretary **Nelson Llewellyn** conducted the Memorial part of Sunday's church service assisted by **Wayne Charles** and **Jack Geraint Edmiston** moving the Memorial Roses. There were anthems by Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth. **Louise Taliesin** was the soloist. **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies**, **Rev. Hedd-Wyn M. Williams** and **Rev. Richard Price Baskwill**, all who served as WNGGA trustees or officers at some time, carried out the duties during the church service. **Alun Guy** of Cardiff, Wales returned for another tour as the conductor of the gymanfa sessions in the 109th Field Artillery Armory and Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth sang the anthems.

The 2,050 registrations for the 1993 Wilkes-Barre National were the highest ever recorded and remain the highest ever since. **Dan Williams** of Wilkes-Barre was in charge of the tours and planned on two buses for each tour. He recounted an experience when he realized that all tours were filled and advised all of this fact in the second mailing. This didn't faze the Welsh in the least. They just crossed out the notice and sent their money. He agreed to expand the tours to three buses without realizing the problem of getting additional buses. He even had to go to Cape May, NJ to rent trolley buses. These were all right for the flatland of Philadelphia and Cape May, but they could not make it up the hills in the Wilkes-Barre area. He was also expected to house all the trolley drivers and provide secure parking. The most bizarre incident occurred on the trip to a mine in Scranton. When it came time to leave, one of the tourists was missing and evidently still down in the mine. It was determined after much confusion and many telephone calls that a friend had come and taken the individual back to Wilkes-Barre for another event. The unnerved tour guide asked to be excused from the next scheduled tour.

1994

Peterborough, ON

A mid-year Board of Trustees meeting was held in Peterborough, ON in conjunction with the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Welsh Festival. A major part of this meeting was devoted to hymnals, phonetic, and folk song books.

A financial report on the hymnal memorial fund showed a **balance** as of Mar. 31, 1994, of \$21,113.86 There was a **checking account balance** of \$4,153.57 and a MMA **balance** of \$19, 738.10 both as of Apr. 1, 1994. The interest rate on the MMA dropped to 2.36%.

Responding to questions on the cost of printing the reformatted hymnal, President **Ellis J. Jones** called attention to the printer's estimate of \$23,425 for 10,000 copies, \$19,980 for 7,500 copies

and \$16,260 for 5,000 copies. There would be some additional costs relative to computerized reformatting.

Contributions to the memorial hymnal fund have made it possible to go forward. A proofreading team of **Hefina Phillips**, Atlanta, GA; **Karen Wojahn**, Windom, MN, and **Martha Davies**, Ames, IA was appointed to check the music and Welsh words.

Guidelines for printing, approved by the executive committee in November, included that all hymn numbers will remain the same and that two Welsh and two English verses will be moved into the music with all other verses down below the music. It was suggested that the words below the music be justified to the left and that, if possible, a little space be left between the Welsh and English verses with the music.

It was estimated that close to 700 folk songbooks were sold in Wilkes-Barre and that the basic printing costs have been recovered. An additional 2,500 copies of the folk song book, plus an additional 700 at a printer's reduced rate, were procured.

A question regarding harmonization in the folk song book elicited the response that the notes and chords are appropriate for this type of music and instruments that would be used to accompany the singers.

The folk song books will be priced at \$10 per one to four copies and \$8 for orders of five or more copies. A decision on WNGGA selling copies of the hymnal to retail outlets was deferred until the meeting in Bellevue.

There was interest in reprinting the phonetic book, the original work of Judge **David G. Jenkins**. This version was printed and distributed by George Bundy some years ago. It was agreed to update and revise it for publication.

Pat Viets can no longer continue as editor of *HWYL*. Another person will be contacted for the last issue.

The Harrisburg (1995) venue committee report included:

The Hilton Hotel will be the headquarters hotel. The Harrisburg Forum Auditorium, with a capacity of 1,800, will be the site for the gymanfa ganu. No shuttle service will be needed between the Hilton and the Forum.

The Pendyrus Choir will be in concert and its director, **Gwyn Jones**, will be the Gymanfa conductor.

The Board expressed concern that the budget is clear, that volunteer support is sought from local societies and that the international headquarters be kept apprised of progress. A detailed report was requested for the Bellevue 1994 National.

Proposed amendments to the Constitution were reviewed, modified and approved for presentation to the membership at the annual general meeting in Bellevue, WA. Major changes included:

That the revised Constitution be gender free

Designation of the three most recently available past presidents as the nominating committee,

Establishment of a non-voting executive director and change of the secretary's duties to reflect those normally assigned to a recording secretary.

Withdrawal of the vote from the President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America.

Continuing concerns with WAY were expressed with discussion of three options: (1) Abandon WAY; (2) do nothing and ignore the situation; and (3) try to do something about the situation. Options (1) and (2) were deemed unacceptable and a committee was appointed to draw up a proposal to be taken to WAY for agreement and presentation in September at Bellevue.

Parts I and II of the proposed of Rules and Regulations for Organizing a National Gymanfa Ganu would be reproduced and sent to the Trustees for approval.

Prospective venues included Bellevue-1994, Harrisburg-1995, Utica-1996 and Milwaukee-1997. Tentative acceptance of an invitation from Milwaukee was approved pending a further report at Bellevue. There were continuing contacts with persons in Canada and Columbus relative to venues for the National.

Approval was granted for the continued use of courtesy titles on the letterhead and other correspondence. [I never understood the use of the word "courtesy" in this context. From a personal point of view, 25 out of the 32 years in my military career were spent in duties that resulted in achieving the rank of Colonel in the United States Army. There was nothing "courtesy" about it and I'm sure that those whose studies and careers resulted in similar recognition felt the same way.]

1994

BELLEVUE, WA

An Executive Committee meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 2, 1994 for the primary purpose of working on a budget for 1994-95. [I believe this was the first ever WNGGA budget.] The Executive Committee recommended the following so that the budget may be balanced:

starting with the 1995 National each person is to pay \$5 to the National (WNGGA) with the amount to be included in the total registration fee,.

that individual life memberships be increased to \$30 and that individual annual memberships be increased to \$7.

Balancing the budget was dependent on the following **receipts** in the form of 170 new life members @\$30 or \$5,100, 100 new annual members @\$7 or \$700 and 1,000 registrations @\$5 or \$5,000. The budget included a projected expense of \$20,000 for printing of hymnals.

These fee and dues changes were accepted by the members, without objection, during the annual meeting.

Meirwyn Walters was asked to chair WAY but declined stating that “the problem was more serious than selecting officers” and agreed to chair a committee to study future involvement of our youth.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 2, 1994 in Bellevue, WA. **Alan Upshall** reported 952 pre-registrations with 1,100 presently registered, all tours oversold, seminars at standing room only, the banquet completely sold out, and 1,000 expected for the gymanfa sessions.

Guest **Carrie Fox** spoke about winning a 1994 WNGGA scholarship.

The **BOHEP** in the general fund MMA of \$19,892.40 when added to the checking account **BOHEP** of \$5,351.59 and to the balance in the memorial hymnal fund of \$21,328.43 brought total assets in the General Fund of \$46,572.42. The endowment fund BOHEP was \$101,276.91.

Plans were briefed on future venues Harrisburg-1995, Utica-1996 and Milwaukee-1997

Ellis Jones reported on the format for *HWYL* and that an editor was needed.

Sponsoring committees have found it difficult to provide 5 complimentary rooms for the WNGGA president, vice president, executive secretary recording secretary and treasurer. A motion carried that starting in 1995, complimentary rooms will be provided for the president and the executive director for four days (Thursday through Sunday) and the other 3 rooms for the vice president, recording secretary and treasurer will be paid for by the WNGGA.

It was moved and approved to sell hymnals to vendors and associations during the year for profit. No one but the WNGGA would be permitted to sell hymnals at the Nationals.

July 31 was designated as the end of WNGGA fiscal year.

The 1994 Annual General Meeting was held on Sept. 3, 1994 in Bellevue, WA.

Jack Pritchard reported registration at Wilkes-Barre exceeded 3,000 and that gross proceeds were over \$160,000. Share from Wilkes-Barre was \$2,814.70.

A projected publishing date of March 1, 1995 was announced for the new reformatted hymnal (words with music).

The current reported membership total was 2,397 (2,268-life, 73-annual, and 56-WAO life). U.S. total was 2,238, with 2,129-life, 64-annual, and 45-WAO life. Canadian total was 146 with 128-life, 9-annual, and 9-WAO life. Overseas total was 13 with 11-life and 2-WAO life. [Once again. these figures must be considered with caution.]

The inventory contained 1,085 hymnals and 1,870 folk song books with 875 folk song books sold in the first year .

Nelson L. Llewellyn was awarded the 1994 National Welsh-American Foundation Heritage Medallion for his work with the WNGGA.

Amendments to the Constitution were approved unanimously after considerable conversation regarding the removal of voting rights from the President of the Welsh Women's Clubs of America. [This discussion continued on into the next year with many assurances that removal was not intended as a slight to WWC but an attempt to bring voting into line with other affiliated organizations. The real reason, not brought out until next year, was that it was not considered proper to have voting ex-officios that were not elected by the membership.]

Other significant amendments included designation of the three most recent and available past presidents as the nominating committee, establishment of non-voting Executive Director with three-year term and the secretary becoming recording secretary. These amendments led to printing a new Constitution as amended through September 1994.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sunday, Sept. 4, 1994 in Bellevue, WA. **Catherine Dodd**, after many years of service, stepped down as treasurer.

The following were elected, under provisions of the amended Constitution, to two-year terms: President **Wm. John (Jack) Lewis, MD**; Vice President **Rev. Dr. R Cerwyn Davies**, Secretary **Lavina Proverbs**, and Treasurer **Nancy Miller**. **Nelson L. Llewellyn** became the first WNGGA Executive Director and was elected to a three-year term.

President Lewis stated his goals and objectives:

To encourage and strengthen closer ties with Welsh organizations and the local chapters.

To establish new gymanfa [National] dates

To begin a study of population shifts and curves. This study would affect the number of delegates from the present geographic areas. [Since delegates represent organization members, it is assumed he meant trustees.]

Ongoing communication with our sponsoring organizations

Continued publication of *HWYL*. **Al Reese** volunteered to become chairperson [Editor] of this activity

Update the present phonetic hymnal to complement the reformatted hymnal. (The current out of print phonetic book was over 30 years old.)

Select a future hymnal committee.

His future projects included a long range planning committee, increasing membership and correction of the poor image of the WNGGA held by the local venue committees. [There was always a reaction from the local venue committees when it came time to turn over a share of the net proceeds from the National they worked so hard to pull off. I hope this history will help in changing this the impression.]

The honorarium for the executive director was established at \$1,000 per year. A motion carried to give honorariums of \$300 each to the secretary and treasurer.

The 63rd National Gymana Ganu was held on Sept. 1-4, 1994 in Bellevue, WA. Chairman **Alan Upshall** and Vice Chairman **Bob Matthews** headed the Bellevue Executive Committee. The 71 page Program included 12 pages of supplements that made it the largest program to date. There was a Welcome to Puget Sound on Thursday followed with a concert of local talent and a Noson Lawen. The Wales Tourist Board sponsored the performance of the Welsh folk group PLETHYN following the Friday grand banquet and at the WAY luncheon. This was the first time that an esiteddfod was included as part of a National, confirming the relative secondary role of the eisteddfod this side of the Atlantic.

This was the third appearance of Cŵr Meibion Llanelli at a WNGGA National following Vancouver 1980 and Victoria 1990. The unique nature of its concert, under the direction of D. Eifion Thomas, required separate 16 pages of program notes. "The Loud Hill of Wales" was a historical narrative with each section serving as an introduction to the choir's offering. One section portrayed the stark underground existence of a coal miner using an excerpt from **Idris Davies'** *Gwalia Deserta VII* as the lead in to **Joseph Parry's** *Cytgan y Pererinion*. The introduction to Parry's *Myfanwy* told of a lover who would cross all the rivers in Gwynedd, jump all the flaming joined together Gwynedd fortresses and castles "To reach you. O, how I love you! See you on Saturday, If it's not raining." Space permits only this short example of a classic concert by Cŵr Meibion Llanelli.

There was a poem *Where the Heart Once Stood*, by **Jennifer Nightingale**, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Seattle Welsh Presbyterian Church (1889-1956), no longer standing.

Joel Pritchard, Lt.. Governor of Washington, acknowledged his Welsh descent in his welcoming message.

The Program announced a Harrisburg 1995 Hymn Competition for the composition of an original Welsh hymn. It prescribed the rules and regulations and announced a \$1,000 Grand Prize and other rewards. The established deadline date was March 1, 1995, and an entry fee of \$25 U.S. was required.

Welsh cakes, not Welsh cookies, were available in the tearoom. [For the unknowing, there is a difference. The same recipe is used for cakes and cookies. The secret is that Welsh cakes are fried on a griddle while Welsh drop cookies are baked.]

Chairman **Alan Upshall** reported on a very touching incident that occurred during the Sunday intermission buffet. The room had cleared but he had to go back in to pick up some stuff left after the raffle. An older lady followed him, took up his hand and gave him \$100. She was from New York and was there with her failing husband. They had such a wonderful time that they wanted to contribute more.

The first Eisteddfod ever held with a National was very successful. Idaho produced three out of the four winners. Tenor **John Owen** of Boise, ID won the Wales Tourist Board Trophy while soprano **Eluned Jones** of Virginia won the Puget Sound Welsh Association trophy. Flutist **Carmen Maret** from Idaho won the Urdd Gobaith Cymry Trophy and the Whitney Women's Chorale also from Idaho won the Wales Eisteddfod Trophy.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM
ALAN UPSHALL'S CLOSING REPORT
ON THE 1994 BELLEVUE NATIONAL

There were 1,106 registrations with 45% from outside the WA, OR, or BC region.

There was a profit of \$20,985 with 50% (\$10,310) going to the WNGGA national treasury. [This was the largest amount to date.]

The seminars were worthwhile and the eisteddfod was a spectacular success. There were preliminary auditions for men and women. 333 attended the eisteddfod, it was profitable and he urged that this become a part of the gymanfa weekend.

The grand concert was also a spectacular success with 1,557 tickets sold.

Attendance at the church service was very good. **Rev. Enid Morgan** was an excellent choice and the offering came to \$1,128.

The gymanfa sessions were well attended. The gymanfa sessions lose money because of facility set up costs. Gymanfa needs a profitable support package.

There were crowds at a very active Welsh Market Place and vendors were well satisfied. Vendors must be made to understand that the weekend is there for every one not just their business.

The tearoom was not profitable because attendees were too busy. He questioned its need at future venues. [One of the problems with the tearooms seemed to be its out of the way location. There was no question that the market place was the main attraction.]

There was no sponsorship from state or local government. The Wales Tourist Board provided its usual support. The National Eisteddfod of Wales and URDD (The Welsh League of Youth) provided eisteddfod trophies. The WNGGA contributed a \$150 prize for the eisteddfod. choral competition

1995

Toronto

The Mid-year meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on April 22, 1995, in conjunction with the OGGGA Welsh Festival in Toronto.

The Wales Tourist Board committed a £4,000 lump sum in support of the National. It became obvious how much volunteer help means to a National committee. The Pittsburgh committee received help from Youngstown people, Ames, IA people helped at Kansas City, and volunteers from Boston traveled to help at Utica. (APP. J.)

Treasurer **Nancy Miller** reported on the decision to make incremental payments for partial shipments of hymnals out of the regular account [general fund]. When delivery is completed, a reimbursement will be made from the memorial hymnal fund to the general fund. This will save interest. [This is my interpretation of a somewhat confusing part of the minutes.]

Reformatting the hymnal to place words with the music was a formidable task requiring multiple skills. **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** coordinated a committee of talented individuals working from different locations around the country. **Michael Dripps**, the outside computer consultant, was the only paid member. Proofreaders **Martha** and **Dr. Phillips Davies** (Ames, IA), **Joan Owen-Mandry**, (Lisbon, OH) and **Hefina Phillips** (Atlanta, GA) worked with the Welsh words and had to pay particular attention to the syllabication required when the words were moved from the bottom of the page into the music. **Karen Jones Wojahn** (Windom, MN) checked for correctness of all music applications. All parts of the hymnal were entered into a computer and pages were then sent to the proofreaders. When returned, Ellis met face to face in Minneapolis (nine times so far at the time of this report) with **Michael Dripps** for entering changes into the computer. The cover design was changed to make a distinction between the old and the reformatted hymnal. This was done to permit easy reference by pages in the red or green hymnal when hymns are announced. The changes included reversing the colors of the cover so that green was on the top and red on the bottom and the background for the shield was changed from green to red to conform to the change in color scheme. The translation of "Come, let us sing to the Lord" was changed and (Reformatted) was entered below Hymns and Anthems. In all, this task required the full resources of the volunteers and their work earned the appreciation of all. President **Jack Lewis** stated the need for a new phonetic version to go with the reformatted Welsh hymnal.

Ellis Jones presented two options for hymnal pagination: (1)-Reprint the reformatted hymns with the same numbers as in the old hymnal causing 8 blank pages and increased cost or (2)-Renummer the hymns so they fit together with no blank pages, thus saving printing costs. This would require the gymanfa conductor to announce the page numbers from both the old or the new hymnal. [Adding page references in the Gymanfa Program helped solve this problem.] A motion carried approving Option 2. Ellis presented a complete rationale for the charge of \$10 per hymnal. A motion passed to charge \$10 U.S. per hymnal, this amount to include shipping and handling.

The question of profit making came up again. There continued to be a mistaken concern that profit making would change the non-profit status of the WNGGA. [There was and still is no restriction

on making profits as long as they are used in carrying out the PURPOSE of the non-profit organization.]

Bequests from the estates of the late **Elizabeth Griffiths**, of Philadelphia, and **Chris Edwards** (widow of past Treasurer **David Edwards**), of Cleveland, and the contributions of many other individuals and organizations to the hymnal fund made all this possible. These, along with those who worked so hard on this project, were recognized in the printed reformatted hymnal.

Jack Pritchard announced that the NWAFA Annual Recognition Dinner honoring **Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.**, would be held in Pottsville, PA on October 21, 1995. Reese was serving as a WNGGA trustee and the editor of *HWYL* and *The Eagle and The Dragon*, the newsletters of WNGGA and NWAFA respectively

1995

Harrisburg

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 1, 1995 in Harrisburg. The financial report for the **checking account** indicated a **BOHBP** of \$3,908.58, **receipts of** \$28,881.87 (including \$15,524.46-Bellevue venue proceeds, \$3,357.20-venue postage reimbursement, \$4,189-dues, and \$3,856.80-sales and postage, \$1,054.10-contributions and \$900.31-breakfast) and **disbursements** of \$24,828.91 (including \$5,722.36-utilities, rent, postage; \$3,373.92-honorariums, help and trustee expenses; \$2,767-insurance; printing-\$9622.90; advertising-\$1,093.09; supplies and equipment-\$581.37; breakfast-\$941.42; and contributions-\$400) leaving a **BOHEP** OF \$7,961.54. When combined with balances in the money market account of \$20,398.83 and in the memorial hymn fund of \$21,970.8r general fund assets amounted to \$50,330.85. When added to endowment fund (\$102,736.83), value of equipment (\$7,428), and inventory (\$5,078) WNGGA **grand total assets** come to \$165,573.68.

John Lloyd reported a \$500 WAY contribution to help start the North American Association for the Study of Welsh Culture and History (NAASWCH). He said that WAY was not active and answered YES in response to a question if this meant that WAY was disbanded. [WAY continued on in a fashion for some years, not really being disbanded until 2002.] There was between \$10,000 and \$11,000 is the WAY treasury. A motion carried to place the WAY assets in the WNGGA endowment fund and let the committee work out the details for the distribution. [This was not done until 2002 when a WAY check for \$15,432.98 was turned over to the BOT.]

Gwyneth Cryslar, President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America, reported many calls concerning the loss of the previously held voting privilege at board of trustees meetings. Some were very unhappy over this action and felt it was directed at them. **Jack Nesbitt** felt that venue chairs should have the vote and, if the Constitution was going to be changed, they should be included. The President stated that this would be worked on before the next annual meeting.

Rev. Stephen Reese, Utica venue chairman, reported 10 different housing locations necessary in order to have 1,000 rooms available for the 1996 National. First Lady **Hillary Rodman Clinton** was invited to be the guest speaker. This news resulted in strong negative expressions from some BOT members because of the political implications (1996 being a national election year) and interference in National activities caused by security requirements. [The invitation was never accepted.] Reese also reported there would be a poetry contest around the theme “Coming Home.”

A review of the decision not to give discounts for quantity purchases of the reformatted hymnal resulted in a carried motion to give a discount of 10% when 9 or more hymnals are purchased with handling and shipping costs included in the selling price.

Executive Director **Nelson Llewellyn**'s report indicated that part-time help was resumed in the international headquarters, a Pitney-Bowes meter was being used for mail and that he would like the board's approval for its one-year lease,

Internet arrived on the scene with the president's comment that we should look into the service and its monthly cost.

The Annual General Membership Meeting was held on Sept 2, 1995 in Harrisburg. Reported membership totaled 2,475 including 2,343 individual life, 69 annual and 63 WAO life. Distribution of membership found 2,195 individual life, 69 annual, and 51 WAO life in the United States; 133 individual life and 10 WAO life in Canada; and 15 individual life and 2 WAO life overseas.

The election of **Ian Morris** to join his father Roy made them the second father-son combination to serve on the BOT.

Alf Reese reported that he would like to write the history of the WNGGA and requested input of historical documents.

A motion CARRIED to acknowledge men and women who served in World War II. [This is another example of the need for an institutional memory or some other system of follow-up. I don't recall any action resulting from this motion.]

A Board of Trustees Meeting was held at 7:30 on Sunday morning, Sept. 3, 1995. [The minutes are vague on this subject. I was there and **Don Mills** stressed the point that no one should have a vote on the BOT that had not been elected by the membership.] A committee was appointed to recommend resolution of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America problem.

President **Dr. Wm. John Lewis** restated the frequently discussed need to define the relationship between the BOT and the venue committee, the need to implant the feeling that the WNGGA is giving half of the proceeds to the venue committee and not the other way around, and that the BOT should be able to decide and direct what should be included in the National. [The Harrisburg venue committee had been advised of the desirability of an eisteddfod but nothing was done.]

Roy Morris stated the BOT was going in the right direction, a protocol was needed so that every National is consistent. The [Rules and Regulations] "Red Book" provides guidelines and this should be checked.

Jack Nesbitt suggested a business manager to isolate the business aspect of the National from the cultural aspect. He confirmed that Sunday does not make money; it is made on other days. The Board of Trustees should take charge of Sunday. The need for venue cash flow was noted with some venues needing \$20,000 up front to secure facilities.

The 64th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by Capel Cymraeg Rehoboth, was held on Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 1995 in Harrisburg, PA.

Capel Cymraeg Rehoboth is located in Delta, PA. It was founded in 1854 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It has a small congregation but one very active in its observance of Welsh culture.

The 72 page Program listed Thursday events including a tour of Gettysburg Battlefield, a Civic Ceremony of Welcome, and a Noson Lawen. The Civic Welcoming Ceremony included remarks and exchanges by Pennsylvania Governor **Tom Ridge** and The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Wales **Timothy Davies**. The Welsh Marketplace was scheduled to be open Thursday through Monday.

A great deal of time was spent during the banquet on the subject of the authentic Welsh menu. Even the chefs were called in from the kitchen to be introduced. [And there, one observer noted, "at the end of the table was **Dr. Wm. John Lewis**, President of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, unrecognized and unannounced."]

The winner of the hymn competition, Roby Davies of Old Colwyn, Wales played his composition which he named *Harrisburg* in honor of the city where it was first sung.

In a departure from the norm, three hymns were sung entirely in English: Cwm Rhondda twice, Aberystwyth and Blaenwern.

There were some who thought the Harrisburg venue committee went overboard when a fire alarm at the headquarters hotel drove everyone outside. Or maybe it was the heat generated by the informal singing going on throughout the hotel.

Commentary

The problems with WAY continued. There always seemed to be the difficulty of achieving a balance between desired autonomy and needed advice. The BOT did not want to interfere, or even give the appearance of interfering in the operations of WAY. Advice and guidance was needed and the supposed liaison technique did not work. Financial support was never a problem. The date of the National was a major problem. On a number of occasions, I suggested that WAY hold its own

function, during the summer months, using facilities available at colleges or universities. This would have been a challenge. It could have been done

The Victoria 1990 National was the turning point in recognition that more BOT control was required. The BOT never seemed to acknowledge that the consequences of financial failure extended beyond the venue committee. Recognition was only a start in approaching the problem. Solving the problem was a long-term thing.

There was always some disagreement over how many hymns should be sung in Welsh. Some thought all, some thought two-thirds and others half with the balance in English.. For a first time attendee at a National, encountering the Welsh language can be a daunting experience. When the announcements are made in Welsh some could be seen heading for the doors. I often found it difficult to hear and understand announcements made by Welsh announcers speaking that foreign language English.

It must be said at this time and repeated that bequests were almost found money. They were received in spite of the lack of any effort on the part of the WNGGA to encourage or even inform the membership of this means of supporting the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and its work to preserve the National Gymanfa Ganu. This condition still exists while this is being written in 2003.

Two of the first organizations to benefit from the extension of the WNGGA scholarship program were Cymdeithas Madog and The Welsh Harp Society of North America, sponsor of Welsh Heritage Week. Their annual Welsh language training sessions were a major factor in the spread of Welsh speaking this side of the Atlantic.

After all the talking and time expended on what should have been a simple appointment process, the 1990 amendment to the Constitution authorizing and establishing a membership committee was never implemented. The detailed procedures for forming the committee died a quick death.

The often-expressed concerns over making a profit continued to reflect a dream world on the part of some. Realization that the National had become a complex mixture of multi-faceted issues and problems led to the demand for professional management on the part of volunteers. Profit became an essential goal to finance management and promote the National.

CHAPTER 14

Need For Changes (1996-2000)

Problems with WAY continue. The basic problem always seem to be a real disconnect between the Board of Trustees and the leaders of WAY. Frankly there seemed to be reluctance on the part of the Board to exercise stronger leadership because of a fear that the WAY leadership would feel this to be a loss of their autonomy.

A larger version of the reformatted hymnal, for use by conductors and accompanists, was published and sold for \$15. Work began on an update of *Welsh Hymns For English Singers*, the out of print 1957 edition of the phonetic hymnal.

The National Welsh-American Foundation (NWAFF) honored **Joan and Dr. David Mandry** with presentation of the 1996 NWAFF Heritage Medallion.

Executive Director **Nelson L. Llewellyn** announced his decision to retire following the 1998 National in Columbus. Nelson's latest gift to the National was his baritone performance of an excerpt from *Messiah* during the afternoon session of the 1998 Gymanfa Ganu in Columbus.

A new job description for the Executive Director was approved and the search began leading to the selection of **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** of St. Peter, MN.

Discussions continued on greater participation of the BOT in planning and conduct of Nationals. All of these discussions over the years led to the approval of a "New Concept."

International Headquarters was move to facilities on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN thus making many complimentary services available.

Life membership dues for new organizations were increased from \$25 to \$50. The entire dues structure was revised in 2000.

Discussions continued on the need to change the dates of the Nationals and holding them at less expensive sites such as universities and conference grounds.

The 1998 National in Columbus was only the second to be dedicated to an individual, **David Edwin Morgan**. There were many successful innovations at this National.

The North American Welsh Choir made its debut at the Minneapolis (1999) National.

Mrs. Marion Hoffman's gift of stock in 1999, a first for the WNGGA, led to a policy covering gifts of this kind.

1996

Niagara Falls, ON

A mid-year meeting of the Board of Trustees was held, on April 20, 1996, in Niagara Falls, ON. A November 20 1995 executive director memo reported the November 15th death of **Emmaline Davies**, co-chair of the 1984 Portland, OR National, a former trustee and recording secretary.

A motion passed to sell the remaining stock of the 1979 Jubilee Hymnal for \$3.50 each including postage and handling. The larger (8 ½ by 11) version of the reformatted hymnal, greatly suitable for conductors and accompanists, sells for \$15.

The reported approximate amount in the checking account was \$32,500. The treasurer suggested thinking of funding for future hymnals.

Gwenyth Crysler, President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America reported her organization agreed to accept the decision removing the voting privilege for WWC. Removal of the voting privilege was the result of a decision that voting privileges should not be granted to any organization whose officers were not elected by the WNGGA membership.

A motion passed to make an annual grant to Cymdeithas Madog and Welsh Heritage Week for their annual language training sessions. A later action exempted these two organizations from the 10% withholding of the amount of the award pending receipt of a completion report. A motion to eliminate the citizenship requirement (United States or Canada) for all applicants for WNGGA scholarships or grants was defeated.

The phonetic hymnal was a great help for non Welsh-speaking attendees at the gymanfa. President **Jack Lewis** offered to continue work on the project to come up with a new phonetic hymnal.

Internet service was discussed and an estimate of \$300-\$700 to establish a WEB site was accepted. The possibility of a joint venture with the NWAFF would be explored.

The absence of an ad in the last Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Welsh Festival Program brought forth information that the budget did not include money for this. A motion passed to allocate up to \$1,000 for advertising.

1996

Utica

A WNGGA Executive Committee meeting was held on Friday, August 30, 1996, in Utica. **Rev. Stephen Reese**, Utica Chairman, reported 988 registrations at this time. He commented on the need for a standard computer program, that \$600 was spent to create one for this year. He also repeated the need for seed money for startup and wondered about the possibility of the WNGGA providing up to \$10,000. He also suggested that maybe the WNGGA should handle the sessions of the Gymanfa.

Arline Barsamian, Milwaukee 1997 Chairman, suggested a different National weekend other than Labor Day weekend. **Mary Ellen Morgan** reported that all events during the 1998 National in Columbus will be held in the Hyatt Regency and attached Columbus Center.

A committee was appointed to determine what computer should be purchased for the WNGGA headquarters. A later motion at the BOT meeting passed to budget up to \$7,000 for the computer project. Discussion of a computer program suitable for use by future venue committees was added to the agenda.

A suggestion was made that perhaps the OGGA and the WNGGA should have a co-gymanfa.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Friday, August 30, 1996, in Utica. A WAY report indicated membership reduced to 20 members. Help was requested for the WAY membership drive. A flyer on WAY was included in the June mailing for the Utica Venue Committee.

The auditors reported that the WNGGA 501 (c) (3) non-profit status was clarified. The auditors suggested bonding for the treasurer, secretary, executive director and endowment chairman. A three-year bonding policy (1996-1999) was secured at annual cost of \$227.

The financial report for the endowment fund showed a balance of \$106,408.11, as of 31 July 1996, an increase of \$3,671.28 since 31 July 1995. A check for slightly under \$10,000 was received from the Harrisburg (1995) venue committee.

A motion carried to consider Minnesota in the West for WNGGA purposes. Clarification was needed since the Mississippi River, always the dividing line between US East and US West, divides Minnesota.

Work continued looking into a WEB site for WNGGA. The cost varies depending on how elaborate a site is. The possibility of joint effort with NWAFF was not considered practical. A motion increasing the amount available for the WEB site project to \$2,000 passed.

For some time, **Mary Morris Mergenthal**, owner and editor of *Y Drych*, has been publishing and distributing a list of Welsh organizations. She advised that she could no longer continue this service. A motion carried that the WNGGA assume responsibility for the list of organizations and reimburse *Y Drych* for printing and mailing costs.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, August 31, 1996. Life member **Bill Pritchard**, of Portland, OR presented a check for the scholarship committee in memory of their beloved friend the late **Emmaline Davies**, past trustee and recording secretary. A letter from **Betty Pierce** reported that the church was also sending a check for \$250 to the scholarship committee in memory of **Emmaline**.

A motion passed to increase new lifetime organization membership fees from \$25 to \$50. The net worth of the WNGGA, less the endowment fund, was \$64,769. The cost of corporate insurance

increases each year, however, after expressing concern, a \$270 credit was realized. Part-time clerical help has been great while staying within budget.

Brisk sales of 2,244 reformatted hymnals were reported. A copyright was obtained for the reformatted hymnal. Less than 100 Songs of the Dragon were sold in 1995 and 845 remained on hand. There were 600 Jubilee hymnals remaining in stock. Forty enlarged size hymnals were sold with 10 remaining in stock.

There was \$5,652.93 available for scholarships/grants. Between 30 and 40 requests for scholarship application forms were received. Ten individual and two organization applications were received. Two organizational and three individual scholarships/grants were awarded. (App H.)

A member expressed concern over the relationship of WNGGA with the Hymn Society of the United States and Canada. He was advised that two copies of the reformatted hymnal were sent to the Hymn Society with no response from them.

Gary Davis, representing the Milwaukee 1997 venue committee, recommended that, effective 2000, the date of the National be changed to a time during the summer when there is no school, and that the board encourage the venue committees to consider lower cost venues, such as universities, colleges and conference grounds. [By this time, it had been clearly established that the Labor Day Weekend was the best time for the Nationals. Other solutions were required to solve the WAY attendance problem. The suggestion on use of universities and other lower cost facilities was just not practical. For many, attendance at a National was the summer vacation trip. There was little interest on their part to spend their vacation in a dormitory and to partake of dormitory mess facilities.]

A recommendation suggesting the WNGGA continue its support of the National Eisteddfod of Wales led to a passed motion to his effect. There were six bards present [Members of the Gorsedd Beirdd Ynys Prydain (The Assembly of Bards of the Isle of Britain)].

The need for changes in addresses from individuals and organizations was and still is a severe problem that caused added mailing expense.

Certificates were issued to retiring Board members: **Dr. Phillips G. Davies**, **Megan Sue Lloyd**, **Iris Rees**, and **Alfred Reese** all who have completed six years on the Board of Trustees.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sunday, Sep 1, 1996, in Utica. **President Lewis** issued a sincere apology to the Women's Welsh Clubs of America for neglecting to recognize them during the annual meeting. Their name was not listed on the agenda. He took full responsibility and stated that "There is no other group in the country that has been more dedicated, more loyal and more devoted to this organization, than the Women's Welsh Clubs." [This was particularly sensitive in view of the removal of voting privileges from the WWC. There was no problem with any other organizations with ex-officio representation since they never had the vote.]

A proposal was received from the Minnesota venue representatives that the date of the 1999 National be 12-15 August with accommodations at a university. A motion carried accepting the venue invitation providing the date could be changed to the Labor Day Weekend.

Following officer elections, the following individuals agreed to continue duties: **Phillips Davies**, Chairman of Endowment and Scholarship Committee; **Ellis J. Jones**, Long Range Planning Committee; **Myfanwy Davies** and **Ian Morris**, Data Committee; and **Alf Reese**, Publicity Committee.

A motion passed to proceed on the Internet and the WNGGA WEB site.

The 65th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by The St. David's Society of Utica, was held on Aug. 29-Sept. 2, 1996 in Utica. Rev. **Stephen L. Reese and Patricia C. Diver** co-chaired the venue committee. The present St. David's Society was established to sponsor the Annual Utica Eisteddfod that had been sponsored by the Cymrygyddion Society now disbanded. When World War II broke out and so many members left to serve their country, the society became inactive after the 100th Eisteddfod. The Utica Welsh American Day Committee, formed in 1958, was sponsored by eight members of the two Ivorite Lodges---Goronwy (Men) and Gwenfron (Women) and eight St. David's Society members. The Committee sponsored many Welsh activities and, when the Ivorite Lodges withdrew their sponsorship in 1970, reorganized as today's St. David's Society.

The five-day National started with a Thursday evening opening ceremony and a Noson Lawen at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. Seminars were scheduled for Friday and Saturday and tours were scheduled on Thursday through Saturday and Monday. **Robert A. Jones** was the Master of Ceremonies at the Saturday evening grand banquet that featured musical selections by **Leonarda Priore Compton. Emrys Jenkins**, Chief Executive, Arts Council of Wales, was the guest speaker. **Geraint Wilkes** was the master of ceremonies at the grand concert. Guest artists included harpist **Elinor Bennett**, Caernarfon, Wales; baritone **Iwan Wyn Parry**, Dolgellau, Wales; accompanist **Sar-Shalom Strong**, Utica; violist **Amédee Daryl Williams**, NYC accompanied by **Yun Sun Kaywin**; and Tapestry, the All-Century Singers of Greater Utica Area under the direction of **Joseph P. Swain**, Ph.D. **Rev. Dr. John Morris**, President of Union College in Schenectady, preached the sermon and the anthem was sung by Côr Dewi Sant Utica a'r Cylch conducted by **Robert A. Jones**. The sessions of the Gymanfa were called to order by **Wm. John Lewis, MD** and **The Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies**, President and Vice-President, WNGGA respectively. Soloists were soprano **Anita Firman**, baritone **Iwan Wyn Parry** and harpist **Elinor Bennett**.

This was the first gymanfa listing hymns in both the new and the older hymnal. This was the fourth Gymanfa conducted by **Iwan Edwards** of Lachine, PQ and the ninth time that **E. Gwyndaf Roberts** served as the Gymanfa organist.

1997

Ottawa

A mid-year meeting of the Board of Trustees, with 14 members in attendance, was held on 19 April 1997 in Ottawa. According to the June 1997 *HWYL*, the following subjects were discussed.

Roy Morris was working on a revision of the WNGGA *Directory of Welsh Cultural Artists and Ministers*. This publication provided information on available conductors, choirs, soloists, Welsh speaking ministers and others suitable as guest speakers. He asked for input from the trustees.

Discussion continued on updating the computer at the WNGGA international headquarters and the advantages/disadvantages of ownership versus leasing. The BOT authorized up to \$1,000 for the purchase of a copier.

President **Rev. Dr. R Cerwyn Davies** will assume responsibility for the Sunday morning church service starting with the 1998 National in Columbus. This was the first BOT move to assume greater responsibility and share the venue workload for the Nationals.

The BOT approved the idea of recognizing individuals, other than officers and trustees, who have contributed greatly to the WNGGA and the Nationals. The first was to be recognized during the 1997 National in Milwaukee. The president announced that a past president's lapel pin was in the works and would be awarded in the future. [Actually recognition of deserving individuals was authorized in the 1958 Constitution and started in 1966. See App. B.]

The June 1997 issue of *Ninnau* announced that WNGGA President **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies** was recently designated a Paul Harris Fellow of the North Scarborough Ontario Rotary Club. This award, the highest honor offered by Rotary International, was in recognition of many years of tireless and unselfish service on behalf of the citizens of Scarborough and the greater Toronto area, both in his role as a Minister of the Church and as a humanitarian.

Green Mountain College in Poultney, VT announced that it will present its annual George Jones Award to WNGGA Vice President **Col. Alfred J. Reese Jr.**, of the National Welsh-American Foundation, for Preservation of Welsh-American Heritage. Actor **Treat Williams** will receive the George Jones Award for Outstanding Contributions by a Welsh-American. Both awards will be given at a college banquet on 27 Sept 1997.

The following extracts are from an editorial in the June 1997 issue of *HWYL* that addressed the subject of THE WNGGA AND YOUTH.

The WNGGA...is very much concerned with attracting young people...to its management in leadership positions. ...However, it may be argued...that the WNGGA would have died a long time ago if it was dependent on youth. The WNGGA continued [because] responsibilities [were accepted by] those reaching the period of their lives when more time became available for such efforts...youth is completing their education, earning a living, raising and educating their children and paying of their mortgages....It seems that it is only [when approaching] after 59,...that active involvement in the WNGGA becomes

more widespread. The WNGGA is fortunate in that there has been representation of youth on its board

[The real problem is doing everything possible to pass on to our children an appreciation of their Welsh heritage and culture to counter its loss because of dispersion and assimilation. A cadre of these reaching the age describe above will assure the continuation of the WNGGA.]

1997

Milwaukee

An Executive Committee meeting was held at 9:30 a.m., Friday, Aug. 29, 1997 in Milwaukee. Treasurer **Nancy Miller** was unable to submit a report because of her move and power and telephones outages. The auditor's report was distributed in lieu of her report. A suggestion to change the end of the fiscal year to June 30 to provide more time for preparation of the treasurer's report was deferred until the afternoon meeting. The treasurer stated that money allocated to the Long-Range Planning Committee and the \$5,000 advance to the Milwaukee committee were not included in the budget. **Alan Upshall** reminded all that the budget is a planning document and suggested a 5% set aside for contingencies.

Executive Director **Nelson L. Llewellyn** announced his decision not to continue on. However, he would like to serve one more year so that he can continue to work with the Columbus 1998 venue committee. There was much discussion relative to his decision and it was decided to advertise in HWYL, Ninnau and Y Drych for a new executive director. The position would be described as a voluntary part-time position with honorarium and some paid expenses. President **R. Cerwyn Davies**, Vice President **Alfred J. Reese Jr.** and Immediate Past President **Jack (Dr. Wm. John) Lewis** were appointed to find a new executive director.

The discussion on venues' comments regarding authority and responsibilities relative to venues included changing the approach to venues to "offer one half of the profits to the committee rather than the WNGGA taking half the profits" and dealing with one hotel chain when possible to gain better financial considerations.. It was accepted that if the WNGGA expects to receive half the profits it would have to assume more responsibility and share the workload. It was decided to present the "New Concept" package to the full board that afternoon. The executive director, [the one who had the greatest experience dealing with venue committees] would like to see the "New Concept" used at least in part in 2000 in Canada as it may help increase membership in Canada.

It was reported that **Earl Williams** was not pleased with the space made available to him at the Market Place. Informal news was that he was told that if he did not like it he could leave. [Earl was one of the main retailers always available at the Welsh Market Place.]

Col. Reese plans on having the history done by 1999, the 70th Anniversary. [I realize now how optimistic I was .]

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 2:00 p.m., Friday Aug. 29, 1997 in Milwaukee. **Jay Williams** presented the final figures for Utica. The net proceeds were \$13,630.60 with 50%, or \$6,825.30 accruing to the WNGGA treasury. **David T. Williams**, Milwaukee venue co-chair, reported 1,450 registrations so far, concert tickets still selling, and that “we have concern in regard to our final dollar figures. We hope to bring our income above our expense line”. **Mary Ellen Morgan**, Co-chair of the Columbus 1998 committee reported on the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Convention Center seating for 7,000, rooms rates of \$85, and an entertainment budget of \$13,400. The BOT will be responsible for the 1999 Sunday morning church service and the Minneapolis committee would like more information on this. They would also like the feelings of the BOT on an eisteddfod.

A motion PASSED to accept the invitation from **Ian Morris** to hold the 2000 National in Ottawa.

President **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies** announced that thinking centered on celebrating the 75th Anniversary in 2004 at Niagara Falls, NY, the scene of the first National Gymanfa Ganu.

Executive Director **Llewellyn** recommended reprinting 75 of the large reformatted hymnals and 5,000 reformatted hymnals. A motion passed to do so.

Nelson then reported that his term expires on Sunday and that he ‘feels it is time to step aside’ and that “he would like to continue for one more year in order to help with the Columbus Gymanfa because I feel a great obligation to do so. Also this was where I began. Columbus was the first Gymanfa I was really involved with, in this capacity”. **President Davies** expressed sorrow over Nelson’s decision.

Rees Lloyd told of the work on “NO MORE EXCUSES”, a project, with **Trevor Williams** and **Geraint Wilkes**, on a phonetic guide, video, and cassette to help singing hymns in Welsh. They hoped to have it available by Dec. 1, 1997. He wanted to know if the Board was interested in becoming joint sponsors. He was advised that the Board would consider this and get back to him.

A job description for the executive director’s position was distributed. It was explained that Nelson was receiving \$1,000 that was not enough to cover his expenses. **Jack Lewis** suggested that the job be listed as voluntary part time and that the honorarium be increased to \$2,000. The job does not have to be filled in Ohio although registration as a corporation should remain there. A motion passed approving the job description and the procedures to be followed to get a new executive director.

The long range planning committee report was given and there was a suggestion that the work to be done be put in priority sequence for further discussion. **Col. Reese** explained that the “New Concept” was the result of long study into the relations between the BOT and the venue committees. It was becoming evident that more participation of the BOT in all phases of a National from initial planning through implementation to wrap up was required. This participation would include provision of experience data; more controlling guidance on desired levels of entertainment, facility and service requirements; technical advice and assistance on facility negotiations and financial advice and support. Cautionary parameters and thresholds and warnings on undesirable activities would be provided early in the planning stage. Much could be done to standardize computer programs on registration,

budgeting, mailings, report forms and formats, and physical arrangements to eliminate “reinventing the wheel.” All this was intended to facilitate an invitation from the WNGGA to a local venue committee to co-sponsor a National with the WNGGA BOT and produce a successful National Gymanfa Ganu under rapidly changing conditions. President **Davies** asked the board to be ready to move on the “New Concept” at the Sunday meeting during which it was adopted.

The financial report for the endowment fund showed a balance of \$112,736.49, as of 31 July 1997. This included an increase of \$6,328.38 since 31 July 1996 and \$3,500.25 was available for scholarships/grants.

Jack Pritchard reported on a survey that gathered information from former venue chairs over a period of five years. They agreed a venue program should be computerized. When asked if registration should be handled by the National [Headquarters], the answer was a resounding NO.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Aug. 30, 1997. The auditor’s report was submitted in lieu of the treasurer’s report. A new treasurer’s report will be submitted as soon as the treasurer get home and gets the computer going. The Executive Director thanked the Board for its approval of the purchase of a copier.

Jack Lewis, speaking on behalf of the Board, said that Nelson’s request to stay on for one year would be granted. **David A. Williams** requested that when any one refers to the new executive director it should be as Nelson’s successor not replacement since no one could replace him.

President Davies called five past presidents: **Douglas Jones, David Mandry, Wm. John Lewis, Ellis Jones, and David Thomas**, forward to be pinned with the new Past Presidents (lapel) Pins.

Selection of a new Executive Director will be done at the mid-year 1998 meeting.

Vice President **Alf Reese** repeated his call for any humorous anecdotes [antidotes in the minutes], pictures or any interesting information for the history with the promise that any submissions would be returned.

Roy Morris asked every one to read Article II (Purpose) of the WNGGA Constitution and not become overly involved in politics. He felt we should strive to continue the religious and cultural part of Wales [meaning preserve, develop and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage].

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 7:00 a.m., Sunday Aug 31, 1997 in Milwaukee. **President Davies** reported on the tragic death of **Diana, Princess of Wales**.

A motion carried not to enter a joint venture on the “NO MORE EXCUSES”, project.

President **Cerwyn Davies** reported continuing concerns of the Milwaukee venue committee over its financial status and total costs. They are close to the line financially. They asked for permission to take an offering during or following the afternoon session of the Gymanfa Ganu. While

reluctant to set a precedent [one had already been set in the forgotten past] a motion passed to allow the venue committee chair to make an appeal at the end of the afternoon session and take a collection at the back of the auditorium. This was considered an extreme situation and the committee's request was granted without prejudice. **Alf Reese** was authorized to review the script of the appeal with co-chair **David T. Williams**.

Recommendations of the long-range planning committee were presented and approved by the BOT.

Designation of WNGGA International Headquarters-

Benefits to individual members to include subscription to *HWYL* and a 10% discount on publications and registration fees.

Benefits for organizational members to include five subscriptions to *HWYL* and discounts

Appointment of a committee to work on an "on-going structured membership recruitment program".

A study be made on possible additional WNGGA publications and a committee be appointed to determine if WNGGA can provide more assistance to local organizations in the form of video loans, speakers bureau, expanded list of conductors, accompanists, and preachers.

That a "Constitution Review Committee" be formed, chaired by the Vice President and with one member from each geographic area, to recommend amendments of the Constitution, reflecting current practices, to the members at the annual general meeting.

That the Board of Trustees become more involved in planning the annual gymanfa ganu, that the executive committee or an appointed national gymanfa ganu logistics committee draw up procedures to streamline planning for the National, that the BOT appoint a national gymanfa ganu coordinator to work with local venue committees.

That the WNGGA provide more information to local organizations, the WNGGA Round Table be continued, and the WNGGA assume responsibility for a list of [associated and non-associated] organizations.

That a committee be formed to work out the details on the WAY situation.

That the 'summit' meeting of representatives of Welsh interest groups be held to determine WNGGA's relationship with other national and international Welsh and/or other ethnic organizations.

A motion carried to accept the entire report of the long-range planning committee and release the committee from its responsibility. [As with many committees of this type, what was missing from its report was an administrative mechanism to assure that its approved recommendations, especially those pertaining to the Nationals, were implemented.]

In response to questions regarding the Sunday morning church service in Columbus, **President Davies** assured all that he met with **Mary Ellen Morgan** and they would work together on the church service.

The 66th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by **The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin, The Welsh Women's Club of the Milwaukee Area, and Milwaukee '97 Welsh National Gymanfa Committee**, was held on Aug 28-31, 1997. The front cover of the Program announced that "The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association Invites You to an Unprecedented Musical Event". [That is exactly what it was although the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association had very little to do with arranging the 66th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu in Milwaukee. While the "New Concept" was just approved in Milwaukee, this National confirmed that it was sorely needed.] Co-chairpersons **David T. Williams** and **Arline H. Barsamian** extended a welcome in the Program that said "We have put together an outstanding program where you will have the opportunity to enjoy an unprecedented number of talented musicians from Wales." [How true this proved and how many problems it presented at Milwaukee and into the future remained to be seen.] For one of the few times recently, a full slate of trustees was listed in the Program. The Welsh Marketplace was open daily Thursday through Saturday and from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Tours and seminars were also available Thursday through Saturday.

[At one of the seminars, a member of the Milwaukee venue committee took the opportunity to lay great criticism on the national BOT without the normal courtesy of voicing his criticism to the board or an officer of the WNGGA.]

There was a Thursday evening program called "Croeso I Gymru" We'll Keep a Welcome. It featured the Seindorf Trefor-the Trefor Brass Band (52 members with 20 still in school) under the direction of **Geraint Jones**. This was followed with an appearance of Dafydd Iwan and his band. [Dafydd Iwan was a talented musician, composer and a spokesman for Wales and the Welsh language. Unfortunately, much of his message was lost to non-Welsh speakers because most of it was in Welsh.] Each night there was an "Afterglow" of informal singing scheduled from 10 p.m. until? An eisteddfod was held for solo vocal and senior hymn singing on Friday and one for solo instruments, choral, and family vocal on Saturday.

Right Honourable **Dafydd Wigley**, M.P from Caernarfon was the guest speaker at the Friday grand banquet. Since 1958, the WNGGA Constitution authorized the BOT to appoint Honorary Presidents in recognition of their services to the WNGGA and its ideals. President **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies** recognized **John O. Morgans**, of Mt. Clemens, MI during the banquet with a Red Dragon adorned plaque stating:

**Be it known that on this date
August 27, 1997**

**JOHN O. MORGANS
is being recognized for his diligent, dedicated, and tireless
efforts in the field of journalism in the Welsh Community
of North America and**

is now declared

**HONORARY PRESIDENT
For 1997-1998
Of
THE WELSH NATIONAL
GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION, INC.**

The Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies
President

Nelson L. Llewellyn
Executive Director

[Following the banquet, the night club style Cabaret seemed to continue the excess started on Thursday evening.] **Margaret Williams**, of Cardiff presented a spectacular show of well-known Welsh songs. **Trefor Williams** from Trefor, Wales was billed as the master of ceremonies and toastmaster for all events at the Gymanfa. He, along with **Geraint Wilkes**, was responsible for directing and producing the events at the Gymanfa. At the same time, there was a Youth Get Acquainted Party for Ages 11 through 35. On Saturday, there was a Welsh World for Youth program for ages 5 through 18.

The Saturday evening grand concert presented Côr Meibion y Traeth, from Anglesey, Wales under the direction of **David Davies**; the Seindorf Trefor, soloists harpist **Elinor Bennett**, **Dafydd Iwan**, baritone **Aled Edwards**, mezzo-soprano **Mari Morgan** and harpist **Liz Cifanui**. **Margaret Williams** and **J. O. Roberts** were narrators for the grand concert all “ Devised, Directed and Produced by **Geraint Wilkes & Trefor Williams**.” It was a crowded stage and program.

[There is no question that the attendees really enjoyed the entertainment. However, the National Gymanfa Ganu would not continue to exist with committees failing to adequately cover the cost of this quantity of imported entertainment. Even the emergency measure of an afternoon session collection to supplement income, authorized by the BOT and extended by the committee to the evening session, was not enough to cover the deficit in the entertainment budget. I was able to find an income entry of \$2,961 collected following the afternoon session and \$755.59 collected following the evening session. The local committee and its leaders forgot that a culturally enjoyable evening of entertainment turns into a complete failure if there is not enough money to pay the bill.]

The Presidents of the sessions were **Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies** and **Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.** respectively who also called the sessions to order. **Trevor Williams** was listed as chairman of each session and **Geraint Wilkes** was the Conductor.

AFTERGLOW

The problems at Milwaukee '97, the resulting financial losses and subsequent correspondence and unknown, at the time, consequences for the future deserve exposure of some of the details.

An October 1, 1996 letter from **Gary Davis**, Acting Chair, Milwaukee '97 Executive Committee to **Geraint Wilkes** that a request for "seed money" in the form of an interest free loan... from the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association immediately in the amount of \$7,000 to be paid back upon completion of the National in Milwaukee. Also in the file is a 19 October 1996 letter to **Nelson Llewellyn** from **Cerwyn Davies** advising that he had told Arline [Barsamian] that their request for \$7,000 would not be forthcoming, would probably consider \$5,000 and recommended that "this be so."

Nelson Llewellyn's letter, of 17 October 1997, to **David Williams** and **Arline Barsamian** forwarded a \$3,792.29 bill for mailings for Milwaukee '97. The letter also asked for the number of registrations for which \$5.00 should be sent by check to the WNGGA treasury.

Nelson Llewellyn's letter, of 29 October 1997, to **Michael Penny** acknowledged receipt of \$2,268 for hymnbooks sold at Milwaukee '97, Nelson's figures did not agree, it should have been 320 books sold for a total of \$2,880, and he asked for advice. The letter also acknowledged receipt of a check for \$994 for memberships received through the registration process.

Extracts from a FAX, dated 15 April 1998, from **David T. Williams**, co-chair of the Milwaukee venue committee, to **Nelson L. Llewellyn** are informative and instructive for future venue committees.

"...As we look back on our planning and preparation I don't think we would change a thing. We as a group...had no desire to make a profit from the event. Our plan was to brake [sic] even and give our attendees full value for their money. It is a little disappointing that we will face a small loss although we will pay back all loans made to us. Mike Penny will provide a more detailed report.

Our plan to house the Choir and Band in local homes was the critical breakdown in our budgeting. We incurred significant additional expense in putting the musicians in hotels....

I feel there are two points to take away from our experience with Welsh connections. 1. The Welsh communities are ageing [sic] ...or we'll soon be holding the event in small chapels around the country and the Hyatt hotels of big cities...it's a shame that the age of the local Welsh limited their contribution in many areas.

Your Milwaukee '97 committee basically came down to approx. nine people who made it happen and I want to recognize them here. **Pat and Geraint**

Wilkes, Mary and Gary Davis, Mike Penny, Jan Batty, Trevor Williams, Jane Williams.

Again I regret that we did not break even or turn a small profit, but do not feel we failed in anyway. I personally believe the Milwaukee event will have a significant afterglow and benefit the organization for many years to come...I want to thank once again the team that brought you 'A Great Sound of A Great Lake.' ”

[While housing was the critical problem, it was made more critical by entertainment excesses. David should have said “give our attendees more than full value for their money.” Since housing was so critical, its assured availability should have been confirmed before all the entertainment was arranged. However, with all the discussion at BOT meetings leading up to the “New Concept” and past experience with hosting of visiting choir members, the WNGGA Board of Trustees bears some of this responsibility for this failure.]

A letter, dated 4 May 1998, from **Eloise W. Morris** to **Nelson Llewellyn** advised that more than nine people worked on the Milwaukee '97 National including **Arline Barsamian**, co-chair responsible for getting the National to Milwaukee in the first place. Also **Dilys Spransy**-secretary, **Jan Batty** and **Eloise Morris** –registration, **Nick Barasmian**, **John Morris**, **Charles Spansy**, **Gwen Tausend**, **Eunice Evans**, **Majorie Wickert Showalter**, the late **Jack Wickert**, **Gweneth Yound** and her late father **Rev. Wm. T. Jones**-general committee. Sorry that David chose to ignore us. Sorry for all the problems that arose [anyone] not in inner circle does not know exactly what happened

The financial report of the Milwaukee '97 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, dated May 20, 1998, submitted by Treasurer **Robert Penny**, is worthy of including as part of the 66th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. It could well be a case study on how not to run a National.

FAX 414-679-4394

May 20, 1998

Dear Nelson,

I do not think I can wait any longer for those who have not put in their checks for payment. I am thus closing the Milwaukee '97 Welsh Gymanfa Ganu accounts and am forwarding to you the money left, together with the financial information. Thus please find inclosed:

1) Copies of the last two bank statements. You will see that I have transferred all the money from the Market Investment Account (\$2,318.50) into the checking account. You will see that the \$2,318.50, together with what was in the checking account, give a final figure of \$2,781.42.

2) A check for \$2,781.42, which is all the money we have left. I know that we owe you \$7,230, being 1/3 of \$21,690, the registration. However, we do not have the money. All other bills have been paid and there is nothing outstanding – assuming that those people who have not submitted their checks do not intend to do so. Now

$\$7,230 - \$2,781.42 = \$4,448.58$

Thus from the Bank Statements, the Milwaukee '97 had a deficit of \$4,448.58.

3) The Accounts, and all the details, for Milwaukee '97. Page 1 of the Accounts shows a deficit of \$298,88...but that is before the \$7,230 we owe you. These two figures added together give...

$$\$298.88 + \$7,230 = \$7,528.88$$

Thus from the Book Keeping, Milwaukee '97 had a deficit of \$7,528.88.

It would seem that there are some errors in my Book Keeping as we have a difference of

$$\$7,528.88 - \$4,448.58 = \$3,080.30$$

However, part of the difference is due to the fact that some people have not yet submitted their checks. As far as I can ascertain that total is only \$331. That then leaves...

$$\$3,080.30 - \$331 = \$2,749.30$$

Thus the Bank has \$2,749.30 more than I accounted for. Thus I have not been Dishonest!!! As the Bank is far more likely to be correct that [sic] I have been, then I think.

The official deficit for Milwaukee '97 is \$4,448.58.

At the last meeting of The Milwaukee '97 Steering Committee I did ask about having the Financial Books audited. However, this would have cost a considerable sum of money and already being in debt, the Committee decided that they would not pay for an audit-as they simply did not have the money. As things transpired, we have an extra \$2,749.30! However, this difference constitutes an error of about 1.4% of the turnover. Should the National wish to pay for a full audit of the accounts, in order to find this difference, please let me know and I will arrange for a CPA to audit the Financial Books.

4) Also inclosed for you are all the details of the accounts:

Page 1- the accounts

Page 2-details of the income

Page 3-details of income handled by M. Penny

Page 4-details of refunds

Page 5-details of sundry income

Page 6-details of expenses

I hope this is sufficient information for your purposes. Should you want further information, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will endeavor to do my best to supply you with whatever I can.

Yours sincerely,

/s/Michael J. Penny

Michael J. Penny
Treasurer

PS Copies of this letter have been sent to members of the Steering Committee for Information.

[A casual review, with the benefit of hindsight, of the above inclosures reveals many instances of excesses that caused the dismal financial results. The elimination of anyone of the major items would not have caused any lowering of the cultural success of the National in Milwaukee and would have help make it a financial success.

9/1/97-The Hotel Wisconsin \$14,750 for housing the band which did contribute \$6,250.

9/1/97-Choir's \$10,000 fee. One or the other, the band or the choir, could have been done without 9/1/97-Margaret Williams \$1,850 fee

Seindorf Trefor Band fee-\$9,889.60

10/21/97-T. Williams \$4,319.27 for (typesetting/printing -\$944, mailing expense- \$880, food- \$136, phone-\$1,368, and mileage/parking-\$991.20) and air fare \$880.

T. Williams \$52 for Welsh Calendars

[The irony of all this is that a problem between Geraint Wilkes and Michael Lewis of Los Angeles was the genesis of expanding legal problems that were to engulf the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association for over two years of undeserved legal expenses and attention.] See App. N.

1998

Niagara Falls, ON

The Mid-Year meeting of the WNGGA was held, in Niagara Falls, ON, on April 18, 1988.

WNGGA Vice President **Alf Reese** made an adopted motion that the Board of Trustees reaffirm and implement the "New Concept" as articulated at the BOT meeting in Milwaukee. The approved motion also established the venue year 2001 as a target date for full implementation. **Jack Pritchard** suggested that the executive committee establish a panel of experts to work with two or three venue committees at a time. A motion passed to copyright the name Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and the initials W.N.G.G.A. [It was subsequently determined that names and their initials could not be copyrighted.] **President Davies** indicated that he would appoint a committee on WAY in place for Columbus

A motion passed to develop a program for the computer registration process used at the venue level. The motion also included a method of providing a computer for use at the venue level. [The need for this was eliminated when the international headquarters was given the responsibility for centralized registration. Centralization registration also provided closer control and distribution of registration fees.]

Three applications were received for the position of executive director: **Earl Thomas Williams**, **Dorothy Elizabeth Edwards Kandel**, and **Dr. Ellis J. Jones**. The committee recommended **Dr. Jones** and a motion to this effect passed.

The 1998 National in Columbus will be dedicated deservedly to **David Edwin Morgan**, the late father of **Mary Ellen Morgan**.

A motion CARRIED to hold the 75th Anniversary National at the Clarion Hotel in Niagara Falls, NY.

Reported membership, as of April 14, 1998, was 2,598 with geographical distribution as follows: USA-2427 (1810-East, 617-West), Canada-155, and Overseas-16. [Caution should be taken with these numbers since subsequent purification of membership lists discovered many lost through death, lack of interest, and oversight.]

1998

Columbus

An Executive Committee Meeting was held at 9:30 a.m., Friday, Sept. 4, 1998, in Columbus

Arline Barsamian, co-chair of the Milwaukee '97 venue committee, reported a problem there because they were inundated with cash and checks on Friday. Another problem arose when some of the artists wanted cash payments rather than checks. Artist signatures were obtained for each cash payment. Final figures for the venue showed a deficit.

Mary Ellen Morgan reported 1,474 registrations as of late Thursday. Many generous donations were received and many of the artists were sponsored by individual and group donations.

David A. Williams discussed a WNGGA web site. He suggested obtaining a registered web site at a one-time fee of \$75 and one time set up fee of \$50. He will check on a counter fee. [The November 1999 issue of *HWYL* was the first to call attention to the WNGGA WEB site at www.wngga.com . The site contained an abbreviated history of the Association, a list of available WNGGA publications and a description of the National Gymanfa Ganu Weekend. Information on membership and a form, links to other sites of interest and *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (Land of My Fathers)* in both Welsh and English were also included. A list of current officers and trustees, the address of the executive director and WNGGA international headquarters and a list of WNGGA Welsh Associated Organizations were all provided to facilitate contact.]

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 4, 1998 in Columbus. President **Davies** reported that every thing going well for **Nelson Llewellyn's** Retirement Recognition which will be mentioned at the opening ceremony, recognized with the presentation of a Plaque at the Banquet and his designation as Executive Director Emeritus. The 75th Anniversary National at Niagara Falls, NY, in 2004, will be designated the **Nelson L. Llewellyn Gymanfa**, and Nelson will be an honored guest at each succeeding gymanfa.

Vice President **Reese** reminded all that the New Concept was approved at the 1997 Annual Meeting and that at the 1998 mid-year meeting we reaffirmed the intention to move in the direction stated in the New Concept. Four out of eleven past venue chairs responded to a request for input. He repeated a number of times the importance of getting corporate sponsorship at the National level.

The Treasurer's report showed a checking **BOHEP** of \$11,852.98, a MMA **BOHEP** of \$21,879.74, and the Memorial Hymnal Account **BOHEP** of \$12,328.73. In a separate report, the treasurer indicated an overall decline in WNGGA total net worth, excluding the endowment fund, (checking account, MMA, and Memorial Fund) from \$62,575.01 at end of fiscal 1997 to \$46,061.45 at end of fiscal 1998. The WNGGA Endowment Fund report showed a **BOHBP** of \$112,736.49, **receipts** of \$2,275.28 for a **BOHEP** of \$115,011.77.

T. Elwyn Griffiths, representing the Board of Cymru a'r Byd/Wales International suggested that the President of Cymru a'r Byd be connected with WNGGA in some ex-officio way and was assured that the board would consider such an action. A motion passed designating the President of Cymru a'r Byd an ex-officio Vice President of WNGGA and asked them for a reciprocal agreement.

Joan Mandry provided **Alf Reese** with two books of the articles of **Rev. John Owen and Joan** on Welsh composers that appeared in *Ninnau*.

The executive director reported one of the two lead crystal vases, used during the memorial service, disappeared after the memorial service last year in Milwaukee. A replacement was ordered at a cost of \$353.65.

President Davies reported on the threatened sale of 4,000 acres at Mount Snowdon in Wales that will affect the preservation of this historic landmark. Welsh actor **Anthony Hopkins** has pledged about £1,000,000 to help save this property.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 5, 1998 in Columbus. Vice President **Reese** reported that **Nelson L. Llewellyn** will receive the **George Jones** Award for the Preservation of Welsh Heritage from Green Mountain College, Poultney, VT, at a dinner on Sept 26, 1998.

The Women's Welsh Club of America has been organized for 81 years.

President Davies reported on the loss of **Dr. Douglas Campbell Jones**, Past President and former trustee.

Retiring Executive Director **Nelson Llewellyn** reported that what started as a part-time job with the WNGGA developed into something that took preference over anything else in his life.

A Board of Trustees Meeting was held at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 6, 1998 in Columbus.

The President introduced WNGGA past trustee and President **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** as the new Executive Director. Dr. Jones brought a great deal of experience in the educational field with his experience as an earlier executive director of a national organization. See App F.

President Reese acknowledged the generosity of **Gwyneth Draime** and **Olwen Joyce Anderson** in sponsoring the Rhos Choir and **Geraint Dodd** respectively.

Newly elected **President Reese** acknowledged that while he is active in several other organizations, his top priority would be directed toward the WNGGA. He asked permission, which was granted, to continue editing *HWYL*.

A motion passed to donate \$1,000 from the MMA to the National Trust, the agency in Wales working to buy the threatened acreage at Mount Snowdon. The WNGGA took the lead on this subject, launched an appeal, submitted articles to the North American Welsh newspapers and accepted other donations for this purpose. The WNGGA raised \$7,897.55, including its own \$1,000 donation, that was sent to Wales as part of the \$1.4 million pounds raised to protect Mount Snowdon.

The 67th Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by The Welsh Society of Central Ohio, was held, on Sept. 3-6, 1998. The chair was **Mary Ellen Morgan, Esq.** and the co-chair was **Marietta Wright Riggs-Schumann**.

The Welsh Society of Central Ohio dedicated the 1998 National Gymanfa Ganu to the memory of its founder, David Edwin Morgan (August 9, 1907-March 18, 1987). See App. F.

An Oral History Project was started with the hopes that it would be continued at future venues. Main events on Thursday included a Round Table discussion of Welsh Politics, a WAY Bar-B-Q and a Noson Lawen. Friday's banquet was personalized to an enjoyable Welsh Family Supper with entertainment by CWLWM, the group of five young Welsh vocalists that delighted all at Bellevue in 1994. See App. G.

Unique features of the Columbus 1998 National included: A Mother's Room, a continuous Welsh Cinema, Fun Time With Rosie the Corgi, Welsh Children's activities, trips to the Center of Science and Industry and the Columbus Zoo, and a Pool and Pizza Party. An extensive schedule of seminars covered a wide range of subjects, both informational and instructional.

An extra special event was the return of baritone **Nelson L. Llewellyn** to the stage of a National Gymanfa Ganu, having been a soloist at the 1976 National in Philadelphia. Nelson proved once again that his recognition, in the Warren, Canton and Youngstown areas, as the "Dean of the

Oratorio Soloists” was well deserved. He sang a selection from Messiah and surprised many in the international audience that were not aware of his talent. CWLWM and the Rhos Male Voice Choir also provided special music, during the afternoon session of the Gymanfa Ganu.

A special attraction during the evening session was the singing of The Three Welsh Tenors: **Geraint Dodd, Dafydd Edwards and Geraint Wilkes.**

The very successful Columbus National added \$19,345.28 to the WNGGA treasury. This was the largest amount to date and one most likely never to be exceeded. It was in addition to an earlier check for \$11,482.08 (covering the WNGGA part of registration fee, payment of printing and mailing charges from WNGGA and memberships.) It must be remembered to the credit of the Columbus committee, and its chairwoman **Mary Ellen Morgan** and co-chairwoman **Marietta Wright Riggs-Schumann**, that many of the expenses were paid by donors. This was a major breakthrough in the financing of a National Gymanfa Ganu, hopefully to be emulated by future committees.

FINAL REPORT

1998 WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU

COLUMBUS, OHIO

SEPTEMBER 3-6 1998

The final report of **Mary Ellen Morgan**, Chair and **Marietta Riggs-Schuman**, Co-Chair of the Venue Committee is one of the finest reports received and is worthy of extensive quoting. Along with the “CLOSING REPORT PREPARED BY **ALAN UPSHALL**”, following the 1994 National, quoted earlier, these two reports set the standard for all venue reports.

There were many unique features of the 1998 Columbus National starting with the dedication of the National to **David Edwin Morgan**. The following dedication is quoted in the above report.

David Edwin Morgan was the founder of the Columbus Welsh Singing Society, the parent organization of the Welsh Society of Central Ohio (WSCO). Dave kept the organization going for many years when it could have folded. In 1952, he organized the first National held in Columbus, and was active in the second National in 1986, even though he was very ill. Without him, there would be no Columbus organization and no Nationals here in 1952, 1986, and 1998. He also took hundreds of people to Wales to establish their links with their ancestors. Keen in area genealogy, he made it possible for many to trace their roots and to find contemporary Welsh relations. He also brought Welsh artists to America for numerous events, and has built lasting bridges between the Land of Our Fathers and the Land of Our Choice.

Excerpts, condensed and rearranged where appropriate, are presented here to indicate what an aggressive and skillful venue committee can accomplish.

The Welsh Society of Central Ohio voted by a very slim margin to host the 1998 National because many opposed holding it on the Labor Day Weekend. After being prevailed upon by Nelson Llewellyn, they acquiesced, The committee established goals and the Chair was determined to:

Provide as Welsh an experience as possible

Maintain the traditions of past cymanfaoedd

Institute new traditions

Showcase present-day Wales

Offer something of interest to everyone, especially non-Welsh spouses in attendance

Make the four-day weekend child-friendly

Remove as many physical and distance barriers as possible

Instill a sense of wholesome fun

Raise our pride in being Welsh

Expose Welsh culture to the Central Ohio area

Make a profit for the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and for WSCO

RECOMMENDATIONS

More time must be provided for a meeting with past, current, and future venue committee chairs.

Venues should provide one key person to negotiate all contracts. That person should not be intimidated [should] continually ask for more from service providers and expect to get it.

National should provide a negotiation seminar.

All committee members should be recognized at some time during the National. Ideally, have committee members on stage during worship service or gymanfa session.

Color-coded ribbons be used to identify committee members, large donors, seminar presenters, and performers.

The National Headquarters should issue its own credit card [With International Headquarters taking responsibility for centralized registration, this became unnecessary.]

The National Board needs to have a master list of Welsh companies, companies (American and Canadian) with branches in Wales, and Welsh-American CEO's and CFO's as a source of sponsorship.

The National Board needs to sign checks for accommodations and services. Mary Ellen Morgan had to pay for rooms and be reimbursed later.

The local venue needs to have insurance coverage.

Seminars generate money as long as they don't need much audio-visual equipment. [This costs a lot of money and cuts into profits.]

Advance seating arrangements for banquet did not work. Registrants should be allowed to pick their own seats upon arrival. [Arrangements for turning in dinner tickets for a number table seating seems to be working.]

Geraint Dodd was outstanding and should be brought back as soon as possible. He has a great talent and a great heart. He touched us all.

Recording microphones should never be placed close to the congregation, as off-key singers are recorded and destroy much of the music. [So much for the reputation that all Welsh are wonderful singers.]

INNOVATIONS

Oral History Project- [How I wish I had something that was recorded or made a matter of record during the 1929 Gymanfa Ganu.]

Continuing Education credits for attending designated seminars.

Three male voice choirs: Rhos, Greater Canton, and Ohio State University Glee Club.

Continuous free Welsh Cinema

All events in one building. [Probably the most appreciated convenience]

Welsh Breed Dog Show

Welsh Family Supper rather than Grand Banquet dropped the price, reduced prices for those under 12 and under six encouraging young families to attend.

Permanent name badges

REGISTRATION-Over 30% of the registrations was sent by FAX and an even higher percentage used credit cards to register. While this cost some money, the committee was able to get ready cash early and did not have to get advance loans from the National Board or elsewhere.

TALENT UNDERWRITING- [This was one of the greatest and most significant accomplishments of the Columbus venue committee. Specifics of the extreme generosity of the **Gwyneth A. Francis Draime** family, **Olwen Joyce Anderson**, **Anne Powell Riley**, **David C. Jones** and many others are listed Appendix L. Financial Management. What was it that made this such a success in Columbus and no where else?]

SEMINARS- [All reports indicate seminars are moneymakers]

GRAND CONCERT

Assigned seating was based on order in which registrations were received

[By using facilities in the Columbus Convention Center] proximity was traded for acoustics.

CWLWM brought down the house whenever they performed. Those older attendees who were afraid that Welshness would not be preserved were delighted with the group's performance.

TOURS-Tours were very expensive and we made very little profit from them.

AREAS OF CONCERN

Labor Day Weekend

More up to date Welsh talent such as CWLWM

Escalating costs for all events and services

Anonymity of the Board

Lack of detail on hotel contracts. WNGGA should have a standard demand list to be given each hotel under consideration.

Our P.R. is inadequate.

CONCLUSIONS-The WNGGA has already been reimbursed for all hymnals and song books shipped to Columbus, for all printing costs, and a check for their \$5 registration fee share collected from each registrant. No seed money was needed so no repayment was needed.

WE HAVE MADE A HANDSOME PROFIT.

1999

Niagara Falls, ON

The Mid-Year meeting of the Board of Trustees was held, on May 15, 1999, in Niagara Falls, Ont. There was no quorum for this meeting so all actions were advisory. When **Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.** assumed office as president, he became the first individual who served as President of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (WNGGA 1998-2000) and the National Welsh-American Foundation (NWAFF 1989-91).

President Reese reported on the death of former trustee **Dr. Phillips G. Davies** earlier this spring. A motion PASSED to send \$250 to a memorial in Phillips' name.

The president commented that since the function of the executive committee is to function as necessary between meetings, there would not be a meeting of the executive committee in Minneapolis. The Friday BOT meeting will be held in the morning rather than the afternoon. He hoped that this would clear the afternoon to permit more visibility of trustees as representatives of the WNGGA and encourage membership. In Minneapolis, trustee badges will be a different color and have a daffodil on them to identify trustees. It was hoped this would make the trustees more visible than when using the ribbons. Trustees were asked to serve at the WNGGA membership booth while in Minneapolis.

President Reese would like to purchase a banner for the WNGGA that can be used with the membership booth to brighten it [and for display at other functions]. **Mae Howells Anderson** volunteered to provide a design for the banner.

The president provided a list of 149 corporations (United States and Canada) doing business in Wales. He commented that if the WNGGA could get annual \$2,000 sponsorships from just 10

corporations, this would provide \$20,000 to ease the venue committee work during the early stages preparing for a National. The problem is getting a foot in the door of prospective sponsors.

Sheila Pepper commented that the word National in WNGGA rather than International tends to discourage donors because of their perception of “national”. [This has been heard often from Canadian trustees who feel that National only pertains to the United States although Canada is also a Nation. From the very beginning the word National appeared in the name. At one time we were the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada. I don’t think I could face up to WIGGA. Designation of an International Headquarters should be sufficient identification.]

Executive Director **Ellis Jones** suggested that a contract between him, as an independent contractor, and the WNGGA would clarify his position for tax matters. [This would also relieve the WNGGA of such things as Social Security and unemployment payments.]

The 2001 National was designated as the target for centralized registration and the first use of an invitation from the WNGGA BOT to a local committee to co-sponsor a National. The president asked for confirmation of this schedule since the “New Concept” was approved numerous times.

The BOT would also be responsible for the Sunday morning church service. There was no movement so far on providing negotiating expertise to a local committee. A negotiations workshop was suggested. A standard contract should also be developed. Transportation expenses should be provided for any designated expert to help the local venue committee. [The WNGGA is the non-profit organization and this status could help in negotiations. This aspect has been ignored in the past.] The executive director reported interest in San Jose for hosting the 2001 National.

President **Reese** repeated his interest and hopes that somehow a Documentary on the Welsh in North America could be produced He suggested that the WNGGA and National Welsh-American Foundation (NWAFF) lead the way on this.

It was suggested that a reasonable cancellation policy could lead to earlier registrations for the Nationals.

Anne Habermehl wrote to the then President **Cerwyn Davies** over concerns of vendors with facilities provided for the Welsh Marketplace. These included adequate set up time for tables and displays, insufficient take down time, and security. Vendors are very important and the WNGGA needs to work on this. The Minneapolis committee turned to a professional handler to take care of the marketplace. Vendors will be able to set up on Wednesday and take down can be delayed until Monday noon.

Agreement was reached that the president of Cymru a’r Byd will be designated an honorary vice president as soon as the Constitution can be amended to provide authority. A reciprocal agreement with Cymru a’r Byd resulted in the WNGGA president being designated one of its honorary vice presidents.

There was continued concern about WAY. One suggestion that they hold their own event still awaited a reply.

The executive director reported 85 new life members, 4 new organizations and 104 new annual members for this year. Of the 2,600 copies of the latest *HWYL* mailed out, 300 were returned because of deceased, moved or whatever. These names were removed from the membership list. The second mailing to members resulted in 95 returned for the above reasons, some improvement. Over 6,000 attendees at Nationals were being carried on mailing lists and the membership was only 2,300. Work is continuing on purifying lists.

The BOT agreed to pay for the publication and distribution of the Round Table list that **Mary Morris Mergenthal** agreed to maintain. This led eventually to the publication of lists of WNGGA member organizations designated Associated Welsh Organizations (AWO's) and non-member organizations designated Non Associated Welsh Organizations.

The international headquarters was moved to facilities on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones**, former faculty member (1958-1998) at Gustavus Adolphus, arranged for the facilities and the many beneficial services provided by the college (App. J). Modernization continued at the headquarters with the purchased of a new, second computer and a new printer. The international headquarters enjoys many free services provided by the Information Technology Dept. of Gustavus Adolphus College. A toll free number, 877-831-0563, to the international headquarters was added for convenience of members. VISA and/or Mastercard may be used in paying membership dues, registering for the Nationals and purchasing items from the international headquarters. **Mary Henry** is the part-time secretary. We also have assistance of a work study student. Because of centralized registration at the international headquarters, it may be necessary to increase the \$3,000 authorized for this office help to \$7,000. [Administrative costs continued to rise because of the accomplishment of added functions at the international headquarters. This brought into question the need for a change in the distribution of proceeds from a National to 60/40% in favor of the WNGGA treasury rather than the current 50/50%.]

No jubilee hymnals remained available for sale (15 remain in inventory). During the period, 632 reformatted hymnals were sold with 5,463 remaining in inventory and 78 large reformatted hymnals were sold with 35 in inventory. Printing cost for the large hymnal is \$8.30 with a selling price of \$15. There has also been an increase in sales of Songs of the Dragon (Folk Song Book).

1999

Minneapolis

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, 3 Sept 1999 in Minneapolis. The executive director reported that a recent technological breakthrough at the Gustavus Adolphus post office resulted in the saving of about \$200 in a recent mailing of *HWYL* and enclosures to 2,447 members. The WNGGA was the first to benefit from the breakthrough—a “stuffer-addressing” mailing machine.

The WNGGA received a \$5,000 bequest from the estate of **Dr. Phillips G. Davies**, former trustee and chair of the scholarships/grants committee.

A question was raised about income from Milwaukee. The executive director said it depends on the status of outstanding checks. He was asked to resolve the matter. The president also reported a loan of \$5,000 to the Ottawa local venue committee for the 2000 National.

A motion carried, with amendments, approving the design of the WNGGA banner and approval of its procurement by **Col. & Mrs. Reese**.

The president reported no progress on corporate sponsorship [simply because no approaches had been made to corporations]. A suggestion was made that we engage professional help for doing this. An individual corporate sponsorship of \$2,000 is the right amount because this sum, in most cases, can be donated without an extensive chain of approval. **John Nesbitt** suggested a development committee be established.

The executive director reported 2,600 members, an increase of 100 over the past year. This is an approximate number, as the latest data has not been entered

Discussion on the computer web page centered on the acceptance of commercial links, the previous decision not to accept them, and the matter of charging fees if they are accepted.

It was reported that the phonetic work on all of the hymns was complete. A goal was established to have the phonetic hymnal available for sale at the Ottawa National with the selling price determined at the 2000 mid-year meeting in Waterloo.

Because of the lack of a quorum at the mid-year meeting, the president asked for and received the board's approval to sign a contract with the Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones**.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 4 Sept. 1999 in Minneapolis.

Treasurer **David A. Williams** summarized the WNGGA financial picture with \$12,586.89 in the **memorial hymnal account**, \$14,752.33 in **money market savings account**, \$1,024.55 in **checking account**, and \$112,350.94 in the **endowment fund** for a total of \$140,714.71. The president reported that the \$5,000 advance to the Minneapolis Venue Committee had been repaid at the 1999 mid-year meeting and that \$5,000 was advanced to the 2000 Ottawa venue committee.

Executive Director **Ellis J. Jones**' report covered membership (2,686); procedures in place for persons to use credit cards for purchases, membership and registrations; and the sale of over 175 jubilee hymnals to a church in Pennsylvania.

A motion carried to approve the recommended amendments to the Constitution. In addition to technical details and other amendments listed in App. A., the following major changes were approved:

Authorization for an additional 3 trustees for the US West.

Requirement for the treasurer and executive director to be citizens of the United States.

Elimination of references to regional gymanfaoedd and establishment of co-sponsorship for the Nationals.

During the discussion of the Constitution, a recommendation was again made that the visiting choirs be required to sit with the audience during sessions of the Gymanfa. This opinion was based on the belief that a conflict of music sound occurs when the audience sings in the direction of the choir on the stage and the choir sings in the direction of the audience.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Sunday, Sept. 5, 1999 in Minneapolis. A motion carried to issue an invitation to the Welsh Association of Northern California to co-sponsor the 2001 National in San Jose. This was the first time an invitation was issued under the New Concept.

Because of some special interests of the Ottawa committee, an exception was granted for registration for the 2000 National to be handled by that committee. It was recommended that the committee take the average or worst rate for last year and set a rate for the registration fee: \$20 CDN and \$15 US. The WNGGA expected \$5 US for each registration.

Ellis Jones reported that **Dr. Beth Hemsley** started a project on Oral Welsh History and asked that this project be taken over by the WNGGA. A decision was deferred to future discussion. [I was not able to find any further discussion of this subject.]

In a review of the New Concept scheduled to start in 2001, Vice President **Alan Upshall** reminded all that there was more to this than just centralized registration. There have been two financial failures in the past ten years (Victoria and Milwaukee), and every venue faced difficulties. Each year the venues continue to reinvent the wheel. A change required more WNGGA BOT involvement. A lot of money and considerable risk is involved. Last year's budget (1998 National) was \$190,000. Trustees agreed to the concept of co-sponsorship and this requires WNGGA responsibility. Agreement in advance is needed with the venue committee on return of money to the WNGGA and consideration needs to be given to having a contract with the local venue committee. Co-signing of contracts was first done when President **Reese** signed a contract with the Fairmount Hotel in San Jose. It would be very helpful to the local venue committee for the WNGGA to provide expertise on negotiating with the hotel. [I don't think this was ever done in a meaningful and on the scene way. It was always the feeling, except at Columbus 1998, that the hotel and convention facilities were negotiating from strength with their experience.]

WAY President **Carolyn Kearney** requested

that WAY become an official affiliate of the WNGGA.

that the WNGGA be an active supporter of WAY.

that WAY financial accounts be held at WNGGA headquarters but still under WAY control.

that a WAY member sit on future venue committees.

that WAY be included in the WNGGA web site.

that WAY participate in the passing of the medal/flag ceremony or at a WAY luncheon with the trustees in attendance.

[A casual reading of these direct requests discloses a left out feeling on the part of WAY members.] President **Reese** pointed out that at one time an official liaison was provided by the BOT to WAY as an advisor. A motion carried to transfer WAY funds into a WNGGA account, a site for WAY be provided at the WNGGA web address, and that the BOT appoint a trustee as an advisor to WAY. The Constitution Review Committee will consider how to include WAY as an affiliate. [The transfer of WAY funds into a WNGGA account did not take place until some three years later.]

The budget provided for an increase of support staff costs from \$3,500 to \$7,000. The executive director's pay of \$2,000 plus reasonable expenses was set for the new executive director in 1997. Concern was expressed that the executive director is paying travel expenses out of pocket and that budget line 502 (travel) be increased from \$500.

President **Reese** announced that he and his wife, **Faye** would become the first unincorporated sponsor by committing \$1,000 through the WNGGA to the National venue committees for each of the next five years (Ottawa-2000, San Jose-2001, Harrisburg-2002, Richmond-2003, and Niagara Falls, NY-2004)

Reese also repeated his thoughts on the need for a documentary video on the Welsh of North America and their culture. He asked for and received authorization to approach NWA President **Jack Lewis** on this subject. **Dr. Wm. John (Jack) Lewis** became the second person to serve separate terms as president of the WNGGA and the NWA.

Treasurer Dave Williams recommended the development of a corporate seal and the Executive Director was requested to bring a draft of such a seal to the mid-year meeting.

The 68th Welsh National Gymanfa, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Gymanfa Ganu Association and the St. David's Society of Minnesota, under the auspices of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association was held on September 2-5, 1999. This third visit to the Minneapolis-St. Paul area carried on the excellent previous Nationals of 1978 and 1987. This National was co-chaired by two long standing supporters of the WNGGA: **Mary Morris Mergenthal**, editor and publisher of *Y Drych* and **Dr. Ellis J. Jones**, past trustee, past president, and current WNGGA executive director. The Program announced the 68th National as North America's final, foremost gymanfa of the century featuring a premiere for the new millennium.

The event schedule included a Folk Concert and Twmpath. Celtic harpist **Catherine Salovich Victorsen** and IONA provided the musical entertainment during the Folk Concert. IONA's musicians **Barbara Tresidder Ryan**, **Bernard Argent** and **Robert Mitchell** played the music of the six Celtic nations: Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Cornwall, Isle of Man, and Brittany. **Siân Frick** of Delaware and **Laurel Bradshaw** of Minnesota were the callers during the Twmpath, a Welsh barn dance.

The planned eisteddfod allowed participants to enter as an artist or an amateur. While only the artists would be judged, the amateurs had the opportunity to perform before and receive comments from the adjudicator. For the first time and because this was the first try, literary entries were sought as an exhibition rather than a competition.

Meirwyn Ioan Walters conducted both sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu. His energetic and passionate style of conducting added a special touch that was noted by many. Baritone **Jeremy Huw Williams** and the Welsh Youth Choir, with Conductor **Mary Morris Mergenthal**, provided the special music at the afternoon session. The Welsh Youth Choir was a group of children and grandchildren of Welsh immigrants from several States. It was joined with singers from Builth Wells High School in Wales. The 1999 Minneapolis Gymanfa Ganu Committee gratefully acknowledged the gift from **Jack Morris** to support costs of the choir and extended thanks to both the singers and their parents for their past month's work.

Côr Cymry Gogledd America/North American Welsh Choir, with Conductor **Mari Morgan** its originator and conductor, made its debut concert and provided the special music for the evening session. The choir was formed in March 1998 with the aim of performing at this year's National. The 140-member choir, made up of individuals, with ages ranging from 14 to 80+ from 26 states and three provinces, followed a unique preparation scheme. With little chance for meetings of the full choir, members met in regional groups to rehearse the international repertoire selected by **Mari Morgan**. The program included the World Premiere of two especially commissioned works for the choir's debut. The choir commissioned *The Welsh Host*, a poem by **Menna Elfyn**, and The Schubert Club commissioned the music by **David Evan Thomas**. *Psalm 104 (Praise my soul)*, with music by composer **Hilary Tann** was commissioned by the choir. **Menna Elfyn**, author of seven volumes of poetry, is Co-director of the M. A. Creative Writing Program at Trinity College, Carmarthen, Wales. **David Evan Thomas**, Composer-in-Residence for the Schubert Club, received his Ph. D. from the University of Minnesota. Composer **Hilary Tann**, a native of Ferndale, Wales, has lived in the United States since 1980 and chairs the Department of Performing Arts at Union College in Schenectady, NY.

The Minneapolis National Gymanfa Committee gratefully acknowledged the gift from **Tom and Marcia Richards** and **Lyle and Kay Jacobson**, which was given in the memory of **Cecil M Jones**, to help support costs of the Grand Concert of the North American Welsh Choir

The Closing Ceremony of passing the flags and the traditional singing of Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau and God Be With You brought the 68th National Gymanfa Ganu to a close

The financial report from the 1999 Minneapolis venue committee showed **receipts** of \$140,505.68 including (\$16,465-registrations, \$70,313-activities and events, \$27,520.61-contributions, \$383-eisteddfod entry fees, \$3,105-Program ads, \$3,981.50-marketplace, \$4,428.12-other, and \$14,309.45-cash income on site), **expenses** of \$132,325.27, for a **surplus** of \$8,180.41. The surplus was divided with the WNGGA share being \$4,090.20. The Minneapolis committee share was divided with half going to the Minnesota Gymanfa Ganu Association and half to the St. David's Society of Minnesota.

FINAL REPORT

1999 MINNEAPOLIS VENUE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Excerpts from the outstanding final report of the Minneapolis Venue Executive Committee, co-chaired by **Mary Morris Mergenthal** and **Dr. Ellis J. Jones**, are as follows.

The \$5,000 loan from the WNGGA was repaid in May 1999 from early registration receipts.

This was the first National where the international headquarters handled the registration and the international headquarters prepared over 1,000 pre-registration packets.

Over 150 volunteers assisted the venue executive committee.

Tours were handled by Metro Connections, a professional tour agency.

Brede Exposition Service handled physical arrangements for the marketplace.

The dining service of Gustavus Adolphus College contracted to make 600 dozen Welsh cakes but only 5,500 were used [eaten on site]. The rest were sold. Approximately 4-5 per expected registrant would be sufficient.

The local committee took out a special insurance policy for the four-day event and strongly urged the International Headquarters to include this coverage in the Officer/Trustee policy that the WNGGA has.

42 seminar opportunities were provided. The cost for media/audio visual materials considerably exceeded budget estimates.

There were 25 entries for the competitive part of the eisteddfod. Written entries were published and recitations given during the non-competitive part of the eisteddfod.

The venue committee unanimously agreed to limit the number of events so that registrants would not be too exhausted to enjoy the climax events-the sessions of the gymanfa.

The venue committee decided to structure the informal singing changing it from its "spontaneous nature" by scheduling three directors and accompanists for each of three nights.

The two step dinner reservation/table sitting system was used. Banquet tickets were turned in to a table reservation tickets center for numbered table sitting of choice. This system went extremely smoothly and is recommended for future banquets.

The grand concert was limited to the North American Welsh Choir and a soloist. The concert lasted longer than planned and informal singing drew a smaller crowd.

A special envelope was use for Gymanfa Ganu registrants to place their donations. This secured £1,000 for Cytun, an ecumenical ministry in Wales.

The venue committee considered a list of ten gymanfa conductors that was narrowed and each was asked their philosophy on what a Gymanfa Ganu should be. Meirwyn Walters, Esq. clearly stated his feelings that it was a worship service using words and music of the hymns.

The Youth Choir formed for the Gymanfa was one of the highlights of the afternoon session.

Recommendations

A clear written clarification of the budgeting process and what is to be paid the National is needed.

A greater awareness of the legal aspects of visas and work permits is needed when negotiating with groups from Wales.

Whenever possible, events should be scheduled on one floor of the headquarters hotel.

Local venues should seek underwriting for various activities to assist in funding a National. The WNGGA should provide assistance in this area.

2000

WATERLOO, ONT

The 2000 Mid-year meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Waterloo Inn, Waterloo, Canada on April 29, 2000.

The Constitution states that the BOT elects the executive director. President **Reese** conferred with the executive committee and recommended that **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** be re-appointed as executive director for a further three-year term beginning in September 2000. Reese explained that the time lapse between active participation of past presidents in management of Association affairs could range to four or more years. He felt that the executive committee, rather than the nominating committee, should recommend extension or election of the executive director and this procedure was recommended for the future. A motion carried that this procedure be followed in the future. **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** was appointed for a further three-year term.

The president reported on the "New Concept" which is well on the road to create a new relationship between the WNGGA and venue committees. He co-signed the contract for the hotel in San Jose. In the future, the WNGGA will co-sign all contracts that exceed \$1,000. This new direction will help avoid financial failures (two in the past ten years). Much of the administrative work, such as registration and preparation of registration materials, will be done at the international headquarters. This change should lead to consideration of changing the division of net proceeds from a 50/50% split to 60/40% in favor of the WNGGA.

He reported on a recent stock transaction, probably the first, benefiting the WNGGA. **Mrs. Marion Hoffman**, of Chicago, contacted him with the desire to donate stock to the WNGGA. He established an account with Janney Montgomery Scott (Account # 86409415) and deposited **Mrs. Hoffman's** 100 shares of the stock valued at \$23 per share. These were sold ultimately for \$35 per share. The absence of a WNGGA policy for handling stock transactions such as this presented dangers. Rather than an increase in share price when sold, the delay before President **Reese** arranged the sale could have resulted in a loss for which he would have had to assume responsibility. Some thought that a stock portfolio could be established, others thought stocks should be sold immediately. A motion passed that, until advice is received and a policy established, donated stock would be sold within five days of receipt. The president's action in establishing the account available for future use was approved.

The new WNGGA banner, designed by **Mae Howells Anderson** and purchased by **Col. & Mrs. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.** was displayed. It is to be formally presented to the WNGGA in Ottawa, and used during events at the National. Reese requested that it be passed from venue to venue with the other symbols of the WNGGA

Reese announced his new objective to have the WNGGA History available for the 75th Anniversary (2004) in Niagara Falls, NY.

Vice President **Upshall** displayed a sample nametag for use at Nationals to identify WNGGA life and annual members and their hometowns. A sample business card for officers and trustees, computer prepared by Treasurer **Dave Williams**, was shown. It was suggested that copies be taken and personalized on trustees' computers.

A \$55,000 bequest was received from the estate of **Dr. Carlton Jones Lake** who conducted at the 1988 National in Baltimore. A motion carried to establish a separate endowment fund in the money market account for this \$55,000 with the fund to be administered by the endowment chairperson. A general discussion will be held at a future meeting on the subject of bequests.

Net WNGGA assets, as of March 31, 2000 came to \$208,478.69. It was recommended that miscellaneous accounts in financial reports be replaced with detailed listings. The treasurer indicated that the miscellaneous account included \$5,000 received from the estate of **Dr. Phillips G. Davies**

The invitation to Harrisburg venue will include a strong recommendation that an eisteddfod be held.

Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** reported on the constantly changing membership picture and that the 53 pieces of correspondence returned for incorrect addresses in the past year was a real improvement over last year when over 300 pieces were returned. A three-chance policy is in effect for annual members: the first chance is when the request for renewal is issued, the second is a reminder, and the third is a notice that membership has elapsed and WNGGA benefits are suspended. Quite frequently, the third letter results in a life membership.

An effort is underway to improve relationship between the WNGGA and its 80 Associated Welsh Organizations (AWO's) and to increase the number of (AWO's). Trustees were provided lists of AWO's and 109 Non-AWO's and asked for help.

One of the benefits for members is the saving in shipping and handling costs, for WNGGA publications. It was agreed that this should not be done for non-members and shipping and handling costs should be added to the selling price. Publication inventory totals, with fiscal year sales as of March 15 (in parenthesis) were: reformatted hymnals- (520) 4,708, reformatted enlarged hymnals- (224) 94, folk song books- (77) 1,365, Minneapolis CDs- (349) 151, Minneapolis cassettes- (242) 108. Some confusion existed in the Minneapolis committee regarding the requirement to return \$5 out of the registration fee to the WNGGA. There was an agreement to return \$2 of the registration fee to the WNGGA. All remaining CDs and cassettes were turned over to the WNGGA for sale with the proceeds going to make up the remaining \$3. Expected sale of CDs and cassettes will more than make up the \$2,916 due the WNGGA.

The unilateral decision of the Minneapolis committee to direct some of the proceeds to an activity in Wales led President **Reese** to suggest that ALL income at a National is subject to sharing with the WNGGA.

A brochure “What is the Gymanfa Ganu” was prepared and is available for use. See the Commentary following this chapter for two articles on this subject that appeared in *HWYL*.

Dr. **Ron Green**, a retired Professor of Education at Gustavus Adolphus, agreed to serve as archivist and organize the archives moved from Ohio to Minnesota. His initial appointment for 50 hours at \$8 an hour was extended by the executive committee for another 50 hours.

Ed Field, chairman of the dues structure committee reported on results of their study. The committee recommended an increase from \$7 to \$10 for annual membership and an increase of life membership from \$30 to \$150. He explained the rationale for their recommendations. He highlighted some of the unique problems involved such as how to handle life memberships held jointly by couples, the absence of family memberships and their recommendation that a family life membership be offered for \$225.

President **Reese** spoke for **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies**, chairman of the nominating committee, **advising** that greater involvement of trustees in the future under the New Concept will (1) require the nominating committee to keep this in mind when coming up with slates, (2) that vacancies that occur should be used only in the section of the continent in which the vacancy is present, and (3) nominations for officers should be for persons willing to continue the commitment to change started this past year. **Myfanwy Davies**, chair of the scholarship/grants committee, reported advice from Paul Stevens that \$15,022 (\$8,172 from last year and \$6,850 of this year’s interest) was available for scholarships/grants this year. Twenty inquiries were received resulting in 11 applications (4 from individuals and 7 from groups). Five awards were made. See App. H.

A motion carried to continue the practice of not including commercial links on the WNGGA Web page until a committee, appointed in accordance with another motion, makes its recommendations

The completed manuscript for the phonetic hymnal was turned over to the executive director. It was suggested that Welsh speakers not look at this book. It is not a Welsh textbook; it is a tool to help English speakers sing the Welsh hymns. A motion was adopted that the executive director determine printing costs, inform the EXCOM so that if costs are reasonable it can be published in time for the 2000 National at Ottawa.

Myfanwy Davies reported the marketplace would be smaller in Ottawa because of cross border implications. The tearoom will give away Welsh cakes because the hotel union will not permit their sale. Donations will be encouraged. The Ottawa venue is offering \$100 subsidies for young people to come to the Ottawa National.

A Wednesday night event, supported by the Welsh Development Agency and not part of the National, will be scheduled in San Jose. Concerns about making ends meet led to the San Jose

committee requesting an increase in the registration fee from \$15 to \$25. The request was not approved because of the absence of budgetary support.

A form will be sent to trustees for their critique of each National. A motion passed to create a design for a WNGGA seal and that it not include feathers. A certificate to be presented to each Welsh Associated Organizations was reviewed. A motion was adopted to secure a legal advisor and a copyright on "WNGGA". As previously reported copyrighting initials was not possible. It was recommended that all pamphlets prepared by the local venue committees be reviewed and approved in advance by the BOT.

The 1999 Roundtable meeting in Minneapolis submitted the following recommendations:

Develop a national data base of organizations and individuals to be used in increasing membership in local organizations as well as in the WNGGA

Encourage explanation and use of gymanfaoedd at local level. Develop a kit with instructions and examples. Use available videos.

Work with local historical societies and provide information on Welsh culture, heritage and language

Develop a program on the history of WNGGA for PBS

2000

OTTAWA

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Sept. 1, 2000 in Ottawa, ON. The Treasurer's report on the memorial hymnal fund showed a **BOHEP** of \$12,878.56. The MMA showed a **BOHEP** of \$14,580.30. The value of assets in the endowment fund showed a **decrease** of \$2,748.10, because of stock market actions, from \$112,350.94 to \$109,602.84. **Income** for fiscal 2000 was \$53,007.37. **Expenses** were \$51,191.58. The WNGGA net worth, as of 30 June 2000, was \$153,946.54 (including \$12,878.56-Memorial Hymnal Fund, \$14,580.30-MMA, \$1,884.84-checking account, \$109,602.84-endowment fund, and \$15,000-outstanding loans of \$5,000 to each of 3 venues. This does not include office equipment, furniture, supplies and publications inventory.

Executive Director **Ellis Jones** distributed a dummy press release that can be modified and used by each trustee in publicizing themselves and the WNGGA. He reported 2,735 WNGGA members. The returned mail problem dropped due to the headquarters' work keeping membership lists up to date. There are over 4,000 regular hymnals on hand. Large reformatted hymnals, 400 each were printed in Ottawa thus avoiding customs problems. Publications are currently stored in Sharon and the owner wants payment of \$125 a month for storage. Gustavus Adolphus College will charge \$10 a month for storage. It will cost \$1,450 to move publications to St. Peter. An approved motion authorized the expenditure of \$1,450 for this purpose.

A motion carried to increase annual individual membership dues to \$10 from \$7 effective January 1, 2001. After considerable discussion, a motion was approved, on a vote of 12 to 8, to increase life membership to \$150 from \$30 and to \$100 for those over 65. A schedule permitting payment of individual life member fees over a period of three years was also adopted, effective January 1, 2001. A motion carried to have those couples who are currently listed as life members become individual life members at no additional cost. With approval of these motions, the BOT authorized their submission to the membership for approval at the annual general meeting. [The vote confirmed concern over the impact of these dues changes on membership. I think most acknowledged that the \$30 life membership fee was too low. The real problem was that incremental increases in life membership fees over the years from \$10 to \$20 and then to \$30 in 1994 never really reflected reality. These fees were always recognized as bargains for the members. They actually were not much help to the treasury in meeting its annual operating expenses. This was recognized by frequent mention in minutes of schemes to have life members renew periodically or to have life membership issued for ten years. The recommended \$150 and \$100 fees, coming as a shock to some, were compatible with those found in other organizations. The installment payment plan was later modified to anniversary payments making it even more accommodating.]

A policy was established that the WNGGA only accept donations of cash or publicly held securities. Real estate and tangible property must be converted to cash prior to acceptance of the donation. The donor would be required to state the purpose of their gift in writing for approval, in advance, by the BOT. A document entitled "Guidelines and Procedures for Gifts and For Gifts Received" was placed on file with these minutes.

The objective of the San Jose committee, in addition to the traditional events, was to connect with Wales and to reach out to North American Communities and other Celtic Nations through a "Festival of Wales". President **Reese** expressed the desires of the BOT that the 70th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu be clearly identified as the main event and that registration be centralized at the WNGGA Headquarters. President Reese clarified that there will be one point of registration and it will be at the international headquarters. Concern was expressed among WNGGA board members that there was little evidence of the WNGGA on posters and references to the Celtic Festival.

A motion passed that the registration fee would remain at \$15 up to Aug. 1, 2001 and be raised to \$20 thereafter. Treasurer **Huw Williams** advised that there would be an increased monthly fee to have credit card security on the WEB site.

Concerns were expressed over the projected \$135 hotel rate in Niagara Falls, NY. The question was should contracts with the hotels be signed? The \$135 rate was negotiated down from \$145. The president reported that the rate is comparable with \$129 rates he recently experienced at St. Davids, PA and Salisbury, MD, not exactly resort or tourist areas. A motion approved signing contracts for hotels in Niagara Falls, NY and Harrisburg.

No action was taken on the talent directory, the executive director was securing more information on the oral history project, and Vice President **Upshall** was still working on life membership pins or badges.

An anonymous donor contributed \$3,000 toward the Documentary on the North American Welsh with the possibility of an additional \$2,000. **Col. & Mrs. Reese** made a commitment of \$500 a year for six years for this purpose and requested that the board commit \$5,000 from the endowment fund. A motion passed that the board identify \$5,000 for this purpose.

The Board was requested to continue thinking about a contingency plan, covering the possible incapacitation of the executive director, to be ready to discuss at Waterloo in May 2001.

The President reported on the work of the late **Rev. John Owen** and the then **Joan Owen** on composers of Welsh Hymns and suggested that the board think of publishing it.

A motion carried that there be no unilateral donations of any kind from National proceeds without approval of the BOT.

The excellent performance of the Bangor, PA Welsh Fusilier Marching Band that led the way up to Parliament Hill in Ottawa playing "Men of Harlech" resulted in a donation of \$2,000, from the scholarship fund, to help finance their trip to Ottawa.

The Annual General Meeting of the WNGGA was held on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2000. President **Alf Reese** reminded all that the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the WNGGA will be celebrated in Niagara Falls, NY in 2004. In 1979, there were a reported 4,000 there and our challenge is to meet or beat that number. He reported that The History of the WNGGA would be ready by 2004.

The treasurer called attention to the following parts of his report. The memorial hymnal fund gained interest of \$291.67 as of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000. The MMA included \$55,043.82 deposited from bequests (**Dr. Carlton Jones Lake and Dr. Phillips G. Davies**) in April. Total interest for the fiscal year was \$811.44. Transfer of funds to pay expenses was approved at the mid-year meeting. Much of this was required because of the three outstanding loans to venues-\$5,000 to each Ottawa, San Jose, and Harrisburg. President **Reese** acknowledged that he caused one of these loans to be issued prematurely. The report included \$5,077.19 received from the Minneapolis venue.

Executive Director **Ellis Jones** reported that the reduction in returned mail showed progress in purifying membership lists. He reported 2,735 life members. Eleven Welsh organizations have become Welsh Associated Organizations (WAO).

Chairman **Ed Field** of the dues review committee (members **Danny Evan Proud** and **Berwyn Jones**) reported on proposed changes in dues approved by the BOT for presentation to the membership. A motion carried to increase individual dues from \$7 to \$10 effective January 1, 2001. There was lengthy discussion on the subject of life membership dues. A frequently asked question was "What does one get for his/her money?" In response, President **Reese** pointed out the tangible benefits. However, he emphasized the difficulty explaining the real benefits of WNGGA membership

since the real benefits are the intangibles, expressed in the WNGGA Purpose, we all find so important. The fact that most attending the meeting were life member would seem to prove this. [A point could have been made that the majority became life members when \$20 meant more than it did today and that the increase was only an adjustment reflecting today's money compared to yesterday's money.] Discussion also covered a life membership badge. One asked if the committee completed a cost analysis or did it just pick a number? The answer to both questions was no. The committee did not complete a cost benefit analysis. It did consider life membership fees in other similar organizations. They did recommend adjustment for age and an installment payment schedule, conveniences not always found in other organizations.

A motion was made and seconded that the individual life membership fee be raised to \$150 US and to \$100 US for those over 65 with payment permitted in three or two installments as appropriate. This change was to be effective January 1, 2001. A motion to eliminate installment payments was defeated. The original motion passed with a vote of 39 to 27.

In a memo, dated December 1, 2000, the executive director reported 7 new AWO's, 22 new individual annual members, 131 new individual life and 6 organization life members. The large number of individual life was, undoubtedly, the result of people taking advantage of the \$30 fee prior to 1 January 2001.

WAY President **Carolyn Kearney** reported that WAY contributed a \$1,000 scholarship to the Bangor (PA) Area High School Welsh Fusilier Band and was thanked for this by the President.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 7:30 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 3, 2000 in Ottawa. In announcing Paul Steven's resignation as endowment fund chairman, the president announced that Treasurer **Huw Williams** would be asked to assume these responsibilities. Board members were sent an evaluation form for this National and were asked to send it to the Executive Director by Sept 17. The President reported that he was still working on the legal counsel matter. [This need was soon overtaken by events.]

Newly elected President **AlanUpshall** called attention to key questions for consideration:

Do we need to change the weekend format to be current and relevant?

Do we change the role of the Board in terms of the responsibility of planning and organizing a WNGGA

How far do we go in changing the role and responsibilities of the WNGGA?

In conversations he had with representatives of the Wales Tourist Board, he found that they would no longer provide donations unless they can see a value in return. They said that the WNGGA was not perceived well in Wales because the term *gymanfa ganu* is not known well in Wales. Other subjects discussed included:

The WAY situation and the possible need for a new approach

With the increase in life membership fees, there is a need for a different way of handling these funds, i.e. maintaining in separate account and amortization. This was not needed when the life membership fees were a relatively small amount.

A motion carried that the WNGGA initiate a secure WEB site for a trial of one year to be reviewed by the BOT at the end of the year. [Secure WEB sites permit safe credit card transactions and transmission of other secure information.]

A motion carried that publication prices be increased: regular hymnals to \$12, large hymnal to \$17, folk song books to \$11, all in US dollars, with the 10% discount for sales of 10 or more to remain in effect.

The 69th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Ottawa Welsh Society under the Auspices of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held on 31 Aug-3 Sept 2000 in Ottawa, ON, Canada. Perhaps the best way to describe the 69th is by quoting from the editor's article that appeared in the October 2000 issue of *HWYL*, the WNGGA newsletter.

“In my opinion, the 69th Welsh National Gymanfa Gnau was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, I have ever attended. I realize this is dangerous ground. Granted, my experience only extends back to the 1986 National held in Columbus. Here in Ottawa, it all started with the opening ceremony and the stirring march of the Bangor, PA High School Slater Band, in their Welsh Guards [sic] uniforms and with the music of the *Men of Harlech*, to Parliament Hill. There they played a complete program of Welsh music. From there through the moving closing ceremony with the ceremonial passing of the flags and the new Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association banner, this gymanfa was complete with some exceptional events. The 150 man Côr Meibion De Cymru-South Wales Male Voice Choir and its program was outstanding. Their Grand Finale, combined with the Soloists and (instrumental) Ensemble in a rendition of **Michael J. Lewis' Penhri**, was a fitting introduction to *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau*. The three beautiful and highly talented Ottawa area sopranos: **Gwyneth Hughes-Penman, Shannon Mercer and Sandra Stringer** proved once again that Welsh talent is not confined within any single boundary. Both sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu, under the direction of conductor **Roy Morris**, burst forth with singing of a balanced program of hymns in Welsh and English that resounded from every side of Congress Hall of the Ottawa Congress Centre. It is unfortunate that all singers cannot be on the stage to hear their sounds that only the conductor alone is privileged to hear.”

Guest speaker for the Grand Banquet was The Right Honorable Lord **Gordon Samuel David Parry**, Baron of Neyland former Chairman of the Wales Tourist Board and current President of Côr Meibion De Cymru.

A glitch during the Memorial service resulted in missing some of the names. These names were recognized during the afternoon session which led to the unresolved question whether or not it would

be more appropriate to hold the Memorial Service during the afternoon sessions to gain greater exposure.

Special music was provided by the winner of Senior Solo Hymn Competition in the eisteddfod, soprano **Colleen Kennedy**, and the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society under the direction of **Marilyn Jenkins**, Mus.Bac., B.Ed., A.R.C.T.

Commentary

While everyone recognized the tremendous work done by local venue committees, it was apparent that growth of the Nationals required a more national than local orientation and more control. The need for control that became apparent with Victoria 1990 was confirmed with the results of Milwaukee 1997. The "New Concept" was all about control.

It is interesting to note that all of the benefits for the WNGGA from bequests and gifts of stock came about with no effort on the part of the WNGGA. This is an area that the Association has not exploited by emphasizing the tax and income benefits that can accrue to donors through "Planned Giving." There is no effort to solicit with end of the year reminders that other non-profit organizations evidently find so effective. Tasteful reminders are needed on a regular basis.

It was also evident that very little was being done from an organizational point to increase members. Membership was and still is an effort primarily of the executive director. Words flowing from membership committees have little effect. Volunteers had to be sought to staff membership tables at the Nationals. The very least that should be expected from trustees is to recruit members. Quotas should be assigned and used as a measure of trustee interest in advancing the interests of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Even advertising in the National Programs was minimal and pro forma in nature.

There were attempts to explain the WNGGA in *HWYL*, what it does and what it means to an individual.. These could not have been directly effective since *HWYL* was distributed only to members. They were intended to provide facts to be used by trustees and current members to encourage new members.

What is the WNGGA?

(Excerpts)

What is the WNGGA and what does it do?...is the total of the organization including members, trustees and officers....It maintains the continuity of the WNGGA and its national gymanfaoedd.... It

assured reactivating the national gymanfaoedd following...suspension during World War II.... provides the institutional memory...to preserve, develop, enhance and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage and traditions.

The Board cultivates and selects the venue for the annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu...provides guidance and up front support of local committees...maintains hymnals current and arranges for printing...currently working on phonetic version of selected Welsh hymns...assures solvency of the organization...awards scholarships and grants...[meets and consults] with representatives and friends from Welsh organizations in North America...

WHAT DOES THE GYMANFA GANU MEAN TO ME?

(Much of this is in my Introduction. I selected excerpts in an attempt to answer the question “What does the Association provide in return for my membership?”)

This is an extremely difficult question to answer.... I must admit that, for me, these material benefits are truly insignificant when compared to the much more satisfying and meaningful return [s] I have received.

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu has opened up a new world and life for me in being Welsh. Make no mistake, I am an American with no divided loyalties. However, I have gained a new understanding and appreciation for the Land of Our Fathers and Mothers, and Uncles and Aunts, and Cousins and Friends

Some...non-material benefits...

Through seminars...Welsh history, folklore, language, customs, travel, interesting biographical sketches. Music and singing in Welsh.

access to Welsh souvenirs, books, gift items, music...clothing

outstanding entertainment, both professional and amateur, either organized or spontaneous.

year after year opportunities to renew distant friendships...

experiencing a renewed sense faith, well-being, and belonging...completeness that comes from inner joy, refreshment and exhilaration

part of a small, **not for profit**, organization responsible for the continuation of a worthwhile institution [The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu].

There is nothing like it [The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu] anywhere in the world including Wales.

CHAPTER 15

A New Beginning (2001-2004)

Welsh Hymns for Non Welsh Singers, the Phonetic Edition of the 1995 Reformatted Hymnal was printed and available for sale at the San Jose (2001) National.

A committee on WAY recommended that there be two annual functions: a special program for those under 18 held during the Nationals and a separate program for high school and college students at a different place and time than the National.

This same committee agreed that a more detailed proposal be developed for the Documentary of the Welsh of North America and specified that it should be directed toward audiences in North America not Wales.

Roundtable breakfast of Welsh Associated Organizations and others was changed to an alternate year schedule.

Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** announced that if offered, he would accept only a one-year extension of his contract beyond 2003. This caused a search for a new Executive Director that resulted in the selection of **Dr. John Ellis**.

A fund raising committee recommended a fundamental change in the philosophy governing WNGGA activities.

Legal problems involved the WNGGA when three members sued the Association. See App. M.

Total WNGGA assets as of 30 June 2001 were \$242,004.40 in major accounts: endowment \$98,044.21(including \$21,093.15 available for scholarships/grants); hymnal \$11,456.23; investment \$65,000; venue advances \$10,000; inventory \$47,533; and office equipment, furniture, supplies \$7,069.65 with liabilities of \$414.69. Investment accounts felt the impact of market changes.

The name of the Labor Day National was changed to North American Festival of Wales.

2001

Waterloo, ON

A Board of Trustees mid-year meeting was held on May 12, 2001 in Waterloo. Questions were raised to **Cheryl Mitchell**, Harrisburg Venue co-Chair, over their budget that was based on a \$25 registration fee. This was felt too high and suggestion was made to lower it. There was also a question about **Donald Boothman** scheduled to be conductor and there were assurances that he speaks Welsh and has experience.

Treasurer **Huw Williams** pointed that there has been a shortfall of \$1,000 in cash flow and \$5,000 was borrowed from the endowment fund to pay expenses. The executive director has personally paid over \$4,000 in travel expenses. A motion passed to continue paying scholarships [and grants] out of the endowment fund [interest] and that all unearmarked money receipts go into the general fund.

The treasurer reported a shortfall in the projected 2001-2002 budget of \$18,365 less \$4,000 interest from the **Carlton Jones Lake** bequest. Discussion on ways to raise money included contacting business and industrial leaders and public relations people on requests for donations. A committee will be established to review membership and fund raising possibilities.

A question about the hymnals printed in Canada elicited the response that 400 were printed and 200 remain.

Executive Director **Dr. Ellis Jones** reported a package of four new insurance policies with better coverage and lower premiums. See App. L.

The new phonetic hymnal is ready for printing. Delaying printing until June or July will permit savings of over \$800 with use of the College's new binding machine.

Myfanwy Davies reported on 17 inquiries that resulted in the award of scholarships/grants of \$9,750, out of \$12,000 available, to nine applicants.

Executive Director **Ellis Jones** reported on results of a meeting he had **with Dr. John Ellis** and **Alf Reese** in Harrisburg on WAY. Suggestions included a special program for youth under 18 at the Nationals, a special program for high school and college age youths at some time other than the Nationals and the appointment of a special committee (names mentioned: **John Ellis, Megan Lloyd, Roderic Owen, Kara Lewis, Carolyn Kearney, John Lloyd and Meirwyn Walters**) to work out the guide lines. A motion passed to appoint such a committee.

John Ellis, at the meeting in Harrisburg, agreed to draw up a more detailed proposal for the Documentary on the North American Welsh, the documentary to be directed to North Americans rather than the Welsh in Wales.

The executive director review committee is making a number of recommendations on changes to Article 11 of the Constitution. The core recommendation is to change the name of Article 11 to "International Headquarters/Executive Director",

Questionnaires were sent to all trustees and to former eisteddfod chairs, adjudicators, and competitors as to their experiences and requesting recommendations for improvement in the WNGGA eisteddfod.

A proposal was received from **Dr. John Ellis**, Green Mountain College, Poughkeepsie, VT to locate the WNGGA papers in the Welsh Collection at the College's Griswold Library. This item will be on agenda for the San Jose board meeting.

A motion pass to cancel the new board Sunday organizational breakfast in San Jose and to change the Friday Roundtable Breakfast to an alternate year schedule.

Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** announced that within the past month he advised President **Upshall** that if offered a re-appointment as executive director at the end of his current term in September 2003, he would accept only one more year through 2004. The reason is his health problems. This will give the board time to select a new executive director and new location for the international headquarters.

2001

San Jose

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, Aug. 31, 2001 in San Jose. **Idris Evans**, President of the Welsh American Society of Northern California, warned of a possible shortfall because of a 28% service charge on the meals. An analysis of the first 960 registrations for the 2001 National in San Jose revealed the following:

AGE	WNGGA Member	Attended National Before
Under 21—15	Yes—286	Yes—416
21 to 40—78	No—643	No—443
41 to 60—291	NR—31	NR—101
61 plus—469		
NR—109		

Home Locations: CA-500, GB-114, PA-28, WI-22, MD-20, OH-20, MN-19, NY-19,
WA-19, IL-18, OR-18, FL-16, ON-15

The BOT entered an executive session and no record was retained on the discussion. Following conclusion of the executive session, a motion passed unanimously to advise **Rees Lloyd** that upon return to Minnesota, the executive director would provide him copies of minutes of all BOT and/or committee meetings concerning, pertaining to, or related to the consideration of grant applications or approval of same for the past three years and the financial statements of the WNGGA for the past five years from 2001 back.

Treasurer **Huw Williams'** report showed **income** of \$50,493.03 (including \$11,709.89-dues, \$7,920.44-contributions, \$8,858.10-publication sales, \$10,641.97-venue income, and \$11,362.63-miscellaneous), **expenses** of \$64,653.01 (including \$38,785.81-headquarters expense, \$6,318.59-publications expense, \$5,185.13-venue expense, and \$14,363.48) for a **loss** of \$14,159.98. The endowment scholarship fund investments **decreased** from \$109,336.84 to \$98,044.21 a loss of \$11,292.63 due to market conditions. The endowment scholarship fund showed **receipts** of \$18,032.38 (including \$8,831.40-interest, \$200-contributions, and \$9,000.98-matured savings certificate), and **disbursements** of \$11,373.55 (including \$23.55-bank charges, \$2000-distribution of 1999-2000 scholarships, \$500-distribution of balance of 1999-2000 scholarship, and \$8,850 distribution of 2000-2001 scholarship. Currently there is a **balance** of \$21,093.15 available for scholarships. **Total WNGGA assets**, as of June 30, 2001, were \$242,004.40 (including \$2,901.31 cash and major accounts, \$21,093.15-scholarship, \$11,456.23-hymnal account, \$65,000 investment account, \$76,951.06-endowment fund investment, \$10,000-venue advance, \$ 47,533-inventory and \$7,069.65-

office equipment, furniture and supplies). Current **liabilities** of \$414.69 left a total **worth** of \$241,589.71.

Executive Director **Ellis J. Jones**' reported 2,847 members as of 15 August 2001, an increase of 506 since 31 July 1999. [In considering membership data, one must remember reductions that occurred in the period 1998-99 when the membership lists were purified. Many members lost over the previous years through deaths, lack of interest or movements without address changes were removed from the list. This action was made possible with more computer capability and help at the headquarters.]

An announcement was made on the availability of the new phonetic hymnal *Welsh Hymns for Non-Welsh Singers* based on the 1995 Reformatted hymnal.

President Upshall called attention to the retirement of Executive Director **Ellis Jones** in 2004 and that the WNGGA will no longer have the facilities at Gustavus Adolphus College. Extra costs can be expected as the executive director's job becomes bigger and as the WNGGA takes over more responsibilities for the National. The possibility of sharing facilities with another organization was mentioned, the headquarters must be in the United States, it doesn't matter where, and the executive director can be male or female.

Col. Alf **Reese**'s report on fund raising called for a fundamental review and change in the philosophy governing the activities of the WNGGA. This philosophy in the past could be summarized as anti-commercialistic. He reminded all that the WNGGA and the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu has become a business with all the aspects of a business including budgeting, capital investment, requirement for operating funds and critical cash flow, advertising, professionalism in its administration, marketing, membership (investor) recruiting and bottom line considerations He made a series of recommendations:

That the religious aspects of the National Gymanfa Ganu be confined to Sunday.

That ...non-religious aspects ... be expanded, emphasized, and exploited to the financial advantage of the WNGGA.

That fund raising actions be considered ...corporate sponsorship, grant support, encouragement of "Planned Giving."

Badges recognizing membership ... visible recognition of various levels of contributions
prestigious levels of support

Change in division of net proceeds from the Nationals.

A series of moneymaking schemes all based on " buying for cents and selling for dollars."

The complete report is included in Appendix L-Financial Management. The executive committee approved the concept of The Annual Fund.

A motion passed to change the installment payment of life membership fees as follows: for those under 65, payment of an initial \$50 and \$50 at the five and ten year anniversaries; for those over 65, payment of an initial \$50 with payment of \$50 at the five year anniversary.

Chairman **Danny Proud** reported concerns of the eisteddfod committee include more publicity and more attendance of trustees. A questionnaire should be circulated to all participants seeking responses to these questions. Is the eisteddfod an integral part of the weekend, should it be separate, should it be the responsibility of the local venue committee or the WNGGA, or should we forget about it?

A motion passed with two opposed that the registration fee in Harrisburg be raised to \$25 with \$10 for the WNGGA and \$15 for the Harrisburg venue committee.

President Upshall announced that the BOT reorganization 2001-2002 meeting would immediately follow the annual general meeting rather than at a Sunday morning breakfast.

In view of the charges in San Jose, **Jack Nesbitt** suggested that it be kept in mind to do something about local sales tax exemptions for future sites. (The 501 (c) (3) status granted the WNGGA by the IRS has nothing to do with local sales tax. The National venue committees must arrange this with the Individual States.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 1, 2001 in San Jose. President **Upshall** reviewed decisions made during the mid-year meeting that fixed the scholarship endowment fund at its current level with scholarships/grants to be awarded out of its earned interest. All other unearmarked receipts would be placed in the general fund to pay operating expenses. This action was needed since current operating expenses were exceeding income.

A motion passed to accept the BOT's recommended amendments to the Constitution with a revised Constitution to be made available within 30 days. See App. A.

Rees Lloyd began his inquiries about the procedures used in the scholarship/grants committee. This was brought on because of his objections to the award of a grant to the Welsh Choir of Southern California.

A Board of Trustees meeting was held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, Sept 1, 2001 in San Jose.

The most significant action during this meeting was changing the name of the annual four-day event from the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu to the North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW). The name of the organization, the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (WNGGA), was not changed. This action recognized that the annual celebration has grown into something more than just a Gymanfa Ganu. Over the years seminars, tours, a banquet, concert and the marketplace have all been added to the schedule. It was confirmed, however, that the Sunday sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu would remain the most important and meaningful part of the North American Festival of Wales. The motion changing the name passed unanimously. The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is an

international group with members from the United States, Canada, and Wales. It was hoped that changing the name would overcome the problems with publicizing the gymanfa. Changing the name should make advertising easier and more people would recognize it as a festival rather than only the little understood Gymanfa Ganu. The experience at San Jose showed that it was much easier to obtain press, radio and television coverage for a festival rather to a relatively unknown and poorly understood National Gymanfa Ganu. Whether this will attract more support from the Wales Tourist Board, the Welsh Assembly and the Welsh Development Agency as well as other sponsors remains to be seen.

President **Upshall** also reported on discussions with the National Welsh American Foundation (NWAFA) on its becoming more involved with the WNGGA. One suggestion was that their Annual Welsh Heritage Medallion Award be made during the WNGGA Grand Banquet to give it more visibility.

The 70th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by The Welsh American Society of Northern California, and part of the Festival of Wales 2001 was held on Aug. 29-Sept 2, 2001 in San Jose. This was the first full implementation of the New Concept with an invitation from the WNGGA to The Welsh American Society of Northern California (W.A.S.N.C.) to co-sponsor the 70th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, the co-signing of contracts, and the centralized of registration in the WNGGA International Headquarters at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN.

The 2001 event in San Jose saw, for the first time, an expansion of the traditional program of a Noson Lawen, Grand Banquet, Grand Concert, Sunday Church Service and sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu into a Festival of Wales. The significance of this change may be seen by the relative font size on the cover of the Program and the second billing of The 70th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. Perhaps the tone was set by a May 12, 2001 status report of the San Jose venue committee titled "Festival of Wales 2001-Incorporating the 70th National Gymanfa Ganu".

The Festival of Wales started on Wednesday with a Celtic Music Evening, sponsored by the Welsh Assembly, the Welsh Development Agency, and the Wales Tourist Board, and with performances of Welsh and Irish artists. The Marketplace became the Celtic Marketplace. A somewhat broader attraction-the Wales World Nation Pavilion on West Fernando Street, itself part of the larger Tapestry in Talent Festival, ran for three days: Saturday, Sept. 1- Monday Sept. 3. The Wales World Nation Pavilion presented live music, street theater and dance; exhibitions of science, Welsh food and cooking, Welsh craft and demonstrations; and exposures to Welsh tourism and film industry.

The Opening Ceremony and Noson Lawen opened with a parade of the flags of the six Celtic nations. **Ron and Ann Watkins** donated awards for the eisteddfod winners. There was an Awr Y Plant and informal singing was again scheduled with assigned conductors. The guest speaker at the Grand Banquet was the Right Honourable **Rhodri Morgan**, AM, First Minister in the new National Assembly of Wales. Côr Meibion Llanelli made its fourth and record appearance at a Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. The Welsh Youth Choir-Ysgol Gerdd Ceredigion sang during the Sunday morning Church Service and the afternoon session of the Gymanfa Ganu.

The net proceeds of the 2001 San Jose National produced \$15,301 for the national treasury.

2002

KINGSTON, ON

The Mid-Year Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on 27 April 2002 at the Ambassador Hotel in Kingston, ON.

President **Upshall** reported he would be meeting with representatives of the National Welsh-American Foundation in Harrisburg to discuss possibilities of joint activities. He reported on a successful San Jose National that produced \$15,301 for the national treasury. He expressed appreciation for the support received from the Wales Tourist Board, Wales Development Agency and the Welsh Assembly headed by First Minister **Rhodri Morgan**. He repeated his feeling that without the change to the North American Festival of Wales, thus broadening the appeal of the event, it would be increasingly difficult to attract new members and attract publicity and cooperation from Wales. [I hope there is some interest in measuring the impact of the hoped for support from agencies in Wales whose principal interest has to be directed toward attracting support to Wales.] He reported that on a recent trip to Wales he saw more posters advertising upcoming Gymanfaoedd than ever before and wondered if it was catching on again in Wales.

The president reported on the disruption and time-consuming activity caused by the lawsuit initiated against the WNGGA by members **Geraint Wilkes, Trefor Williams** and **Rees Lloyd**. The lawsuit, filed on 26 December 2001 and served on the WNGGA on 30 January 2002, alleged that the WNGGA violated an injunction prohibiting the sale of Welsh Choir of Southern California CD's without correction of the label wording. The California hearing on 25 February 2002 found in favor of the WNGGA and was followed by a demurrer (exception) filed by **Rees Lloyd**. Information letters to the membership evoked strong and overwhelming support and contributions of \$3,580 to the defense fund against legal expenses to date of \$7,211.13. See App. M.

Treasurer **Huw Williams** reported **income** for the period 1 July 2001 through 31 March 2002 as \$53,836.12 (dues-\$2,619, contributions-\$12,542.60, publications sales-\$11,959.76, venue income-\$19,273 and miscellaneous-\$7,441.76), **expenses** of \$57,604.52 (headquarters-\$36,497.36, committees-\$1,438.80, publications-\$9,322.64, venue-\$3,426.97 and other-\$6,918.75) for a **shortfall** of \$3,768.40. An approved motion required the treasurer to list the documentary fund as a separate item in his financial and other reports. A question was also raised about the large dollar value of the publications inventory. It was becoming evident that greater emphasis and reliance must be placed on the annual fund as a source of operating funds/cash flow. As of 18 April 2002, contributions received in the annual fund from 157 donors reached \$18,030. With the exception of the annual fund, there was little else accomplished under the heading of fund raising.

The BOT in executive session voted to increase the executive director's compensation from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

A new computer (an Omni Tech Strata Pentium 4, 1.76 Gigahertz, 256 megabyte RAM with a 17" Hitachi Monitor) was purchased at a price \$800. This was less than the latest equipment purchased

three years ago. It replaces the oldest computer on hand that was showing signs of possible permanent crashing.

Alf Reese reported on his work on The History of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and hoped it would be published before the 2004 National. Originally planned for Niagara Falls, NY, site of the first National Gymanfa Ganu in 1929, the site had to be changed to Buffalo because of the turn over of convention facilities in Niagara Falls to an Indian tribe for a gambling casino. Bus transportation will be provided to Niagara Falls for observance at the 50th Anniversary Plaque on Goat Island.

The membership committee recommended a modification of dues structure to provide for a family annual membership at perhaps \$15.

Myfanwy Davies, chair of the scholarships/grants committee reported on receipt of ten applications that resulted in awards to two individuals and four groups amounting to a total of \$7,500. The Board of Trustees fully supports the rules and regulations being followed by the scholarships/grants committee and maintaining the high standards set by the committee. App. H.

Continued problems with WAY were not the result of lack of financial resources. There was a lack of leadership and management ability that could have been expected. Examples were a lost check and another check not cashed, failures in communication, poor maintenance and reporting of membership and inadequate reporting to the BOT. There were some successes. Nine members of WAY made a trip to Wales. WAY scholarships did help some members to attend Nationals. Closer ties of WAY to the parent organization were a special agenda item for Victoria (1990) but little changed. This did not prevent the WAY president reporting operations suspended in 1993 because of little interest. The comment of a trustee that the Board did not seem to be addressing the problems of WAY was often on the mark. A carried motion in 1995 to place WAY assets in an account in the national treasury was not completed for some years. [The WNGGA Board of Trustees shared in the responsibility for the lack of more success with WAY.]

Glen Grove, co-chair of the Harrisburg 2002 committee reported that several choirs had declined invitations for the Harrisburg National and that Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth would be the concert choir. [This first solid evidence of the impact of 11 September 2001 on air travel was to be confirmed with reduced attendance at the Harrisburg 2002 and Richmond, BC 2003 Nationals.]

David Williams reported that there was not enough interest among purchasers to use credit cards for payment (less than three dozen in the last year and half) to justify the expense of a secure website (\$65 to \$75 per month regardless of the number of transactions). His recommendation to use PayPal, with charges of 2.9% plus \$.30 per transaction, was approved.

Berwyn Jones reported that an invitation to join letter sent to 102 Non-Associated Welsh Organizations (AWO's) resulted in five new AWOs: Wymore Welsh Heritage Project-Wymore, NE; Cambrian Welsh Society of Delaware Valley, Doylestown, PA; The Welsh Organization of the Pacific, Camation, WA; Welsh North American Chamber of Commerce, Miami, FL and the Calgary Welsh

Society, Calgary, AB. The first WNGGA AWO summit meeting, replacing the WNGGA Roundtable, will be held in Harrisburg during the 2002 National.

President **Upshall** reported on planning for the Richmond, BC 2003 National which will include a youth choir and a male voice choir from Wales with Hayden James as conductor for the Gymanfa sessions.

2002

HARRISBURG

A Board of Trustees Meeting was held on 30 August 2002 in Harrisburg, PA in conjunction with the 71st Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu.

Treasurer **Huw Williams** presented his report showing **income** of \$63,923.73, **expenses** of \$81,110.28 for a **loss** of \$17,186.55. **Income included:** dues-\$3,019, contributions-\$16,200.60, sale of publications-\$14,134.94, venue income-\$21,345, and miscellaneous-\$9,224.19. **Expenses** included headquarters-\$53,265.92, committees-\$1,438.80, publications-\$11,200.06, venue expense-\$2,075.22, and other-\$13,130.28. Legal costs of \$12,101.03 associated with the suit against the WNGGA exceeded donations to the legal fund of \$7,033 for a needless loss of \$5,068.03.

Discussion regarding the financial reports emphasized the importance of the annual fund to help support administrative costs and cash flow that was becoming a problem. See the Richmond 2003 financial report in App L for details on headquarters expenses. The work of the staff at the international headquarters is continuous with processing of and maintaining membership records, maintaining files, processing sales of publications and recordings, maintaining the accounting system for all income and expenditures, processing outgoing mailings and responding to innumerable inquiries received by FAX, e-mail and phones. Work increases when the centralized registration process starts for each National.

Total WNGGA assets of \$235,101.61 **less liabilities** of \$519.95 resulted in **remaining total assets** of \$234,581.66. Components of total assets included cash/checking account/income transfer-\$5,919.81, endowment fund-\$92,689.15, investment account-\$55,000, venue advance \$5,000, equipment/furniture/supplies-\$7,069.65, publications inventory-\$69,423.

Components of the \$92,689.15 endowment fund include money market account available for scholarships/grants-\$20,265.16 and investment equity-\$72,423.99. The endowment fund investments, purchased at an initial cost of \$91,627.85, lost \$19,203.86 as a result of the recent years of economic down turn. Endowment fund income for the year (\$6,384.01) almost equaled the disbursements for 2001 scholarships/grants (\$6,850).

Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** reported membership, as of 30 June 2002, at 2820 (individual life-2,555, individual annual-164 and organization life-101), For the first time, AWO's passed the 100 mark. He cautioned that membership data constantly changes due to non-renewals, address changes and death.

Publication sales of \$13,407 included the sale of phonetic books, the most popular item and largest source of current publication income. Other publication sales, with remaining inventory in parenthesis, included: reformatted hymnals-347 (3,838), large reformatted hymnals-122 (338), folk song books-70 (1,252), phonetic books-501 (231), Minneapolis cassettes-14 (79) and Minneapolis CDs-48 (25). The executive director's recommendation that shipping and handling charges be added to publication orders, effective 1 January 2003 was approved. See App. I.

The membership survey conducted in May-June 2002 (Over 2,700 survey forms were distributed with a 45% response) resulted in the following:

Top five favorite hymns-Cwm Rhondda, Calon Lan, Diadem, Rachie and Aberystwyth

50% of membership age 70 or over

91% of Welsh descent

58% can sing Welsh words of hymns

77% have traveled to Wales

84% have attended a National Gymanfa Ganu

67% use a computer

63% have an e-mail address

71% feel there should be regional events in addition to the Nationals

69% oppose changing the date of the National to other than the Labor Day Weekend.

Executive Director Dr. **Ellis J. Jones** announced that he plans to retire on 1 October 2003. He extended a personal thank you to President Upshall, the executive committee, the BOT and particularly the headquarters staff-**Mary Henry, Ron Green, Donna Green, Michelle Welshons, Jeffrey Ford and most importantly to his wife, Janet Hanson Jones.** "who lives with WNGGA 24 hours a day, seven days a week." Work continues to find a new executive director and location for the international headquarters. The executive director may be male or female and the headquarters must be in the United States.

The long range planning committee indicated progress in creating a more financially secure organization and finding ways to further WNGGA goals. Excerpts of key questions and responses included:

What are some of the key points that have been acknowledged and actions taken?

Recognition that the financial position of the WNGGA is becoming dangerously tenuous.

Membership fees were increased but this has not realized the goal of being able to increase dependence on membership fees

Registration fees are low and not enough income to sustain activities. **Registration fees were increased with a guaranteed amount going the WNGGA.**

The WNGGA is dependent on donations, which are not reliable. **The Annual Fund raised significant sums, but donations are not a dependable way to fund an organization. Bequests are another form of income.**

The WNGGA is dependent on proceeds from the National Gymanfa Ganu weekend, which also fluctuate and cannot be depended on. **The cost of hosting a National has increased substantially, limiting the number of local societies that are able to host the weekend. The Board of Trustees has moved to become more involved in the National to ensure consistency of quality, fiscal responsibility and central registration at the International Headquarters.**

Where do we need to go from here?

We need to reassess the payments to the Executive Director, headquarters staff and the level of staffing.

We need to continue focus on building bridges with Welsh individuals and organizations in North America and to increasing WNGGA membership. We also need to build bridges with Wales of today.

We need to market the North American Festival of Wales, highlighting the Gymanfa Ganu and striking a balance between the past, present and future in seeking support from Wales.

Develop a long-term framework for direct involvement in the selection and organizations of venues and increasing revenue for the WNGGA.

Include youth activity in the governance and activities of the WNGGA.

Glen Grove, co-Chair of the Harrisburg Committee reported 941 registrations so far. Out of the first 891 registrations, as of 21 August, 87% were from USA, 5.7%-Canada, 4.4%-UK, and .025-Peru. He indicated that 52% of reporting registrants were not members of the WNGGA, 25% were attending their first National and 35% used credit cards for registration. A total of \$9,247.22 was received as contributions (139 memorials-\$4,788.22, honorariums-\$450 and 86 special-\$4009). He expressed concern about the continuing affect of the 11 September 2001 attacks on travel which affect attendance.

The WNGGA Board of Trustees will be responsible for arranging the 2003 National in Richmond/Vancouver, BC with the help of three local committees: Vancouver, Victoria, and Puget Sound. It will also be responsible for arranging the 2004 75th Anniversary National, originally scheduled for Niagara Falls, NY. A change to Buffalo was caused by the turn over of Niagara Falls convention facilities to the Seneca Indian Nation for a gambling casino.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 31 August 2002, in Harrisburg. **Rees Lloyd**, one of the plaintiffs in the suit against the WNGGA, requested that two motions be placed on the agenda. One, entered under new business, that the WNGGA recognize Americans of Welsh descent as “Welsh” people was soundly defeated since the Constitution states that “any person of Welsh lineage” can be a member. The second was deemed unacceptable because of the status of the suit. Lloyd’s challenge of the ruling of the president was rejected by a large majority vote. Lloyd then asked why the minutes of the scholarships/grants committee were not provided him as requested. President **Upshall** stated that they had been sent and his cover letter explained why there were no minutes since many of the discussions are over the telephone.

Treasurer **Huw Williams** presented a copy of the auditor’s report indicating acceptance of the financial records.

The membership approved proposed amendments to the Constitution defining membership, adding the Immediate Past President to the Executive Committee, authorizing the establishment of special funds and establishing the Youth Initiative Committee under the aegis of the WNGGA to replace WAY. See App. A. for full details. The many problems with WAY (Welsh American Youth) resulted in its end of operations as of 31 August 2002. A Youth Initiative Committee was formed to address the problems WAY faced and recommend courses of action to make the youth program more effective. Among the recommendations were:

Establish a subsidiary group called the WNGGA Youth Association as a separate entity within and an integral part of the WNGGA with program, activities and financial commitments subject to approval of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

Membership in the WNGGA Youth Association for any one up to and including 30 years of age, of Welsh descent or in sympathy with the basic objectives of the WNGGA.

That there be separate individual dues collected by the WNGGA International Headquarters and maintained in a separate account with amount of dues to be recommended by the Youth Association subject to approval of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

The WNGGA Youth Association be empowered to schedule events at the Nationals and elsewhere subject to final approval of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

The WNGGA Constitution be amended to incorporate this subsidiary organization with final approval at the WNGGA Annual General Meeting.

The President of the WNGGA Youth Association or designee serve on the WNGGA Board of Trustees with a vote.

[This last provision seemed to counter the reasoning behind denial of vote to Women’s Welsh Clubs of America that no one should have a vote who is not elected by the membership. Perhaps it was intended to authorize the vote in an amendment to the Constitution since WNGGA Youth Association is an integral part of the WNGGA.]

A check for the \$15,432.98 balance in the WAY treasury was presented to the WNGGA with the stipulation that the money be used to provide support and guidance described in the new Article 17 Youth Initiative Committee in the Constitution.

The Organizational Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Saturday, 31 August 2002, following the Annual General Meeting.

Executive Director **Ellis J. Jones** became the new editor of *HWYL*, which will be issued on a seasonal schedule Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. An official logo for the North American Festival of Wales was approved.

Outgoing President **Alan Upshall** reported on a meeting with NWAFF representatives that included discussions on items common to both organizations and the possibility of working closer together on such things as scholarships and grants.

New President **Lynn Owens-Whalen** talked on goals for the coming years and thanked Alan Upshall for his diligent and tireless work for the WNGGA.

The 71st Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by Capel Cymraeg Rehoboth and Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth of Delta, PA was held on 29 Aug-1 Sep 2002 in Harrisburg. The schedule of events included tours, seminars, meetings, a marketplace and a tearoom. Informal singing was scheduled and, on other occasions, spontaneous.

The opening ceremony at the State Capitol Rotunda presented the traditional greeting opportunities and musical selections of the Bangor Area High School Band in their Welsh Fusiliers uniforms.

A Thursday evening folk concert "A Tale of Two Rivers" was followed with a te bach. Friday's schedule included a Dydd a Noson Lawen running continuously from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. A grand banquet took place concurrently with a Twmpath (folk dance) for those not attending the banquet. **Catrin Finch**, Harpist to HRH The Prince of Wales, entertained during the banquet and **Jonathan Jones**, Chief Executive of Wales Tourist Board was the speaker. An eisteddfod was held on Saturday. The evening grand concert of Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth also featured **Catrin Finch**. Worship services on Sunday were followed with afternoon and evening sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu.

The Sunday morning Worship Service was held in The Forum with Liturgists **The Rev. Richard Price Baskwill**, Pastor of Capel Cymraeg Rehoboth, Delta, PA and **The Rev. Father Chandler Holder Jones** of St. Alban's Anglican Church, Joppa, MD. The preacher was **The Rev. Gareth Thomas** of Swansea, Wales.

Y Groes Orymdeithiol (The Processional Cross), especially designed by **Glenn Grove**, co-chair of the venue committee, was dedicated. Capel Cymraeg Rehoboth and Côr Rehoboth presented

The Cross to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association for use in future gymanfaoedd as a gesture of thanks for the important role the organization has played in preserving the spiritual heritage of the Welsh people and the rich tradition of Wales' music. The Cross' design shows 1929, the founding date of the WNGGA [its parent organization, the National Gymanfa Ganu Association], placed in the center of a Celtic Cross in recognition of the impending 75th Anniversary. Each letter of WNGGA forms an arm of the Cross, with tracery and weaving typical of ancient design. The Cross was cast in bronze by Tallix Foundry, Inc. of Beacon, NY. Overseeing its production was **Greg Glasson** of Great Britain who is of Welsh and Cornish extraction.

The afternoon session of the Gymanfa Ganu was under the direction of **Donald Boothman** of Hardwicke, MA with baritone soloist **David Gwesyn Smith**, native of Wales and currently Choir Master at the Church of Resurrection in New York City. The organist was **Ed Roberts** of Baltimore. The evening session was under the direction of **Gareth Thomas** of Swansea, Wales with soprano soloist **Sabrina Coleman-Clark** of Baltimore who was featured soloist with the Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth during its 1999 tour of Wales, England and France. The organist was **Thomas Clark Jones** of Harrisburg. The evening session's closing ceremony and passing of the flags was preceded by the traditional *God Be With You*, Benediction and Closing Prayer.

A loss of at least \$7,300 occurred at Harrisburg. The loss included the \$5,000 WNGGA advance and a \$2,300 hotel bill. The effect of 11 September 2001 was being widely felt at all convention type activities with reduced travel causing reduced attendance. There were questionable expenses of \$30,000, hotel bills paid for volunteers and \$5,000 worth of promotional items that became expenses. Total income was only \$127,000. [This experience in Harrisburg confirmed that much work needs to be done by the BOT to place the Nationals on a solid financial footing.]

2003

STRATFORD, ON

The Mid-Year Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held, on 26 April, in Stratford, ON in conjunction with the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Music Festival.

Treasurer **Huw Williams** reported **income** for the period 1 July 2002-31 March 2003 of \$50,969.30 and **expenses** of \$65,632.10 for a **loss** of \$14,662.80. Low interest rates have affected income, money has been borrowed from the endowment fund to be paid back, and a \$10,000 legal bill is expected. Discussion on how to raise money ensued with emphasis on the Annual Fund. Assets in the endowment fund were \$92,589.61 including \$19,038.68 available for scholarships/grants and \$73,550.93 in investments. There was a slight recovery of \$1,126.94 in previously reported losses (Initial cost of investments was \$91,627.85. Losses as of 30 June 2002 were \$19,203.86 compared to current loss of \$18,076.92.) Total WNGGA assets (\$220,685.75 less liabilities of \$202.02) were \$220,483.73.

The budget for 2003-2004 reflects anticipated income of \$76,435 and anticipated expenses of \$91,420 for a projected shortfall of \$14,985. [One wonders how long an organization can continue to

budget for a loss during the year. No realistic actions were apparent in the budget to reduce the shortfall.]

Executive Director **Dr. Ellis Jones** reported membership, as of 31 March 2003, as 3,000 (2,695-individual life, 200-individual annual and 105-organization life). Individual membership of 2,895 was distributed 156 (5.3%)-Canada, 2,709 (93.6%)-US and 30 (1%)-other countries. These figures continue the approximate distribution of members at 95% in the United States and 5% in Canada. In the United States, 63.7% of individual members come from 10 States with 46.7 % coming from five States in East US (OH, PA, NY, WI, and FL) and 17% from five States in West US (CA, MN, WA, AZ, and TX).

Publication sales and remaining (inventory) were as follows for the period: reformatted hymnals-225 (3,613), large reformatted hymnals-115 (223), folk song books-89 (1,163), phonetic books-165 (66), Minneapolis cassettes-45 (34), Harrisburg CDs-228 (273) and Then and Now Survey-38 (62). 37 of the 38 indicated sales of the Then and Now Survey were actually complimentary copies. It should be noted that there was no reduction or addition to the reported inventory dollar values as the result of publication sales and expenses. The WNGGA treasury will retain all of the earnings from the sale of Harrisburg CDs with \$556.29 retained to date. [The sale of the remaining 273 at \$15 per CD would generate approximately \$4,095 to partially offset the loss at the Harrisburg National.]

Since 1998 the staff at the international headquarters has prepared the following informational publications:

FACTS About the WNGGA

Publications and Recordings Price List

What is The Gymanfa Ganu?

WNGGA Annual Fund

HWYL

The executive director wondered if the WNGGA headquarters should prepare a publication on the History of Welsh Hymns and if a revision to the hymnal, normally taking several years, should start.

A new FAX machine (a HP Model 1220 Color), to replace one on loan from Gustavus Adolphus that became unserviceable, was purchase at \$316 through the college bookstore.

Myfanwy Davies, Chair of the Scholarships/Grants Committee reported receiving 27 inquiries that led to 11 applications (4 individual and 7 groups) and 7 awards totaling \$5,662. [Since 1997 to date, seven years, the WNGGA has awarded \$47,215 in scholarships/grants to 12 individuals and 33 organizations/groups.]

On behalf of the revenue generation committee, **Huw Williams** listed suggestions: sponsorships, bequests, Canadian accounts [to facilitate tax deductible contributions from Canadian

members and friends] the Annual Fund, soliciting funds through *HWYL*, selling insurance policies with the WNGGA as beneficiary and establishing a second endowment fund for day to day expenses.

Funding for the programs and activities of the Youth Initiative Committee (YIC) will be included in the Association budget. In coming months, the YIC 2002/2003 will continue discussions to:

Identify events/activities, both inside and outside the traditional weekend, that the WNGGA can support in the immediate and near future and easily implemented activities that could be planned for 2004.

Devise strategies for tapping into, publicizing and attracting youth audiences.

Identify a realistic cost structure reflecting need for YIC activities in a given year.

A motion passed allowing the use, if needed more, of \$1,000 from WAY residue funds for the use of NAFOW Richmond or Buffalo YIC committees.

Berwyn Jones reported 60 attendees at the 2002 summit meeting in Harrisburg. Attendees expressed frustration in not being technically able to set up web sites. It may be possible for the WNGGA to provide assistance and use the WNGGA site as the host.

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) was given the mission of defining the framework of the North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW). There is no question that the WNGGA has to go forward and continue with the New Concept. The Board of Trustees accepted the statements of goals, messages and definition of the audience.

Goals for the NAFOW:

Social and Financial Success. If not financially profitable, the WNGGA will die quickly. It cannot exist on membership dues, the Annual Fund and erratic profit/loss returns from local National committees.

Attract the New Generation. Youth is one thing but, we need to attract the 40-50 age bracket also and no one is addressing this age group that has discretionary time and income and, perhaps equally important, experience able to contribute to the organization.

Wales, past, present and future. Wales is a very different place no matter how long we wish to hold on to our tradition.

Promote interaction and involvement of Welsh groups in North America.

Raise the profile of Wales in North America.

NAFOW Messages to focus on:

Welsh culture and heritage, including but not limited to the *Gymanfa Ganu*, and displaying not only the past but also the evolving and modern multi-ethnic culture.

Wales' continuing contribution to North American development and the impact Wales had and continues to have.

Wales is part of a growing Europe and there is no room for isolation.

The NAFOW audience is:

WNGGA members, Associated Welsh Organizations (AWOs) and other North American Welsh societies.

Non society members with a Welsh ancestry and an interest in Wales.

Local community bearing in mind that the more people we can attract to our concert, the more profitable it will be.

It is clear that the Festival has to realize a significant profit to make the WNGGA financially stable. This must come from tighter control of the organization especially financially. This has not been so in the past. Once the local committee is up and running the WNGGA board does not see a comprehensive budget, expects the local committee to negotiate hotel contracts, assumes the planning committees know what it is doing, is spending money wisely, and that they cost each event appropriately. The board does not monitor financials during the year and assure year to year coordination. There is failure to recognize the primacy of WNGGA interests over that of the local committee. [This has always been a major problem. Local parochial considerations abound. In the army, no one thinks there is a real need for higher headquarters.]

A **main proposal**, that a four-person team be appointed to be the nucleus of a planning team for each NAFOW, was approved effective for 2005. Other approved proposals included:

To develop a policy for pricing the Program ads and considering reciprocity with other Welsh organizations.

To designate the NAFOW web site as the official festival web site under control of the WNGGA.

To examine and establish a policy governing payment of registration fees, specifically how many events an individual can attend without paying registration fees, a major source of income.

Proposals concerning responsibility for festival liability insurance, negotiating hotel contracts, and the WNGGA request for proposals from potential festival cities were deferred until meetings at the National in Richmond, BC.

A report of the Richmond/Vancouver Venue Committee headed by co-chairs **Lynn Owens-Whalen** and **Alan Upshall** estimated expenses of \$140,000 and aiming for a \$25,000 surplus. They reported that \$28,000 in sponsorships was received. The concert theme is "Wales-A Musical Journey".

President **Lynn Owens-Whalen** reported that the 2002 Harrisburg was the last national hosted by a local committee. The Constitution Review Committee will look into removal of co-hosting provisions from Constitution..

The Board of Trustees appointed **Dr. John S. Ellis**, University of Michigan-Flint as the third executive director of the WNGGA. Dr. Ellis will succeed **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** who will retire effective 31 August 2003.

John Ellis is currently Asst. Professor, Department of History at the University of Michigan-Flint. His B.S. degree, with a major in Education, was from Eastern Michigan University; his M.A. degree, with a major in Welsh History, was from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales and his Doctor of Philosophy degree, with a major in History, was from Boston College.

Ellis brings an exceptionally strong background in Welsh History to the WNGGA. His experience as Director of the Welsh Heritage Program at Green Mountain Collage in Vermont, as secretary-treasurer of the North American Association for the Study of Welsh Culture and History (NAASWCH), and as member of the Board of Directors of the Slate Valley Museum of Granville, NY will all prove beneficial to the WNGGA.

He was an outstanding beneficiary of the WNGGA and the NWAFF Scholarship Programs when he studied as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Wales. He has participated in national activities of Cymdeithas Madog and the Welsh Harp Society's Welsh Heritage Week. He was elected to the WNGGA BOT in September 2002.

John and his wife, **Karen**, have two children. With his appointment, the site of the WNGGA international headquarters will be moved to Hartland, MI as soon as possible after 1 September.

2003

RICHMOND, BC

A Board of Trustees meeting was held on 29 August 2002 at the 71st National Gymanfa Ganu in Richmond, BC. An update of the legal problems with the suit against the WNGGA was presented with news that an additional lawyer has been retained which has added approximately \$10,000 to the legal bill. Results are expected in 4-6 weeks on the latest move to dismiss the latest appeal of the plaintiffs: **Rees Lloyd, Geraint Wilkes, and Trevor Williams**. As of 30 September 2003, legal costs due to the ridiculous suit against the WNGGA totaled \$24,295. Contributions of \$7,920 to the legal defense fund reduced this unnecessary loss to \$16,375 but could have deprived the WNGGA of contributions for a better use. See App. M.

Treasurer **Huw Williams** presented his fiscal year 2003 report showing **receipts** of \$68,354.07 and **expenses** of \$90,982.59 for a **loss** of \$22,628.52. A detailed financial report appears in Appendix L.[It is significant to note that headquarters expenses amounted to 57.3% of the total annual expense. Major elements of headquarters expenses, support staff costs and utilities, amounted to approximately 30% and 18.7%, respectively, of the annual expenses. At the time of this report, the checking account had less than \$8 and loans from the scholarship fund and a certificate of deposit had to be taken to help

pay expenses. Treasurer **Williams** emphasized the importance of the Annual Fund, long term sponsorships, memorials, and keeping expenses down.

Receipts in the scholarship part of the endowment fund were \$5,308.45 from dividends/interest with **expenses** of \$16,026 including a \$10,000 loan to the main account. Dividends/interest receipts almost equaled the disbursement of \$6,026 in grants. The endowment fund of \$98,074.70, including the \$10,000 as an account receivable, consisted of \$19,447.61 in the scholarship money market account and \$78,627.09 in the investment account. The investment account recovered \$6,203.10 of the losses incurred during the 2001-02 market decline.

Total WNGGA assets amounted to \$214,634.91 (\$214,975.40 less liabilities of \$340.49).

Executive Director **Ellis Jones**' report covered membership (App K) which led to a discussion of geographic distribution of the membership. He reported that the arrangements made for the headquarters to take over responsibility for the sale of cassettes and CD's of the National Gymfaoedd in Minneapolis and Harrisburg were working well. A review of the publications inventory (App. I) led to his question whether a music and/or publications committee should be established and if work should begin on a revision of the official hymnal.

Ellis Jones analyzed the main sources of income for the WNGGA: dues, sales, surplus from Nationals and contributions. Even if 2,000 new annual members were gained, this would not have eliminated the entire 2003 deficit. Sales of publications and recordings will not remain at current levels without new members since many members already have them. Surpluses are dependent on registrations that fell short in 2002 and 2003. [The outside influences of 11 September 2001 have impacted on registrations.] This leaves contributions and he again emphasized the importance of the Annual Fund. He wondered if we should seek additional support from life members pointing out that a \$10 contribution from 2,538 life members would more than have taken care of this year's deficit. [One often remembers that the vast majority of the life members were enrolled when the life membership fee ranged from \$10 to \$30. Is it too much out of line to ask them for additional support as a statement of appreciation for all that the WNGGA has done?]

He concluded his analysis by stating that "the major consistent potential source of income is the Annual Fund. With substantial direct support from those persons who are members of the organization, WNGGA has a golden opportunity to 'continue its outreach and expand its focus'."

Retiring Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** recalled his 28-year association with the WNGGA beginning in 1975 when he and Janet became life members. Ellis has served as trustee (1987-90), vice president (1990-92), president (1992-94), and executive director (1998-2003) of the Association. "The opportunity to be actively involved with the work of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association at the National Level has been a privilege and an honor. The responsibilities have been shared with a great many people over the years. First, of all my wife, **Janet** has been with me all the way. And, as Executive Director, I have had the privilege of working with an outstanding headquarters staff to provide support to the officers and trustees and to the members of the WNGGA. I extend thanks to all of you. ... This is our organization. We have well-stated goals. We have the start

of an even stronger commitment to these goals. Yes, We can help the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association—by emphasizing membership, by emphasizing the broader distribution of our publications and recordings, by encouraging attendance at our annual festival and by emphasizing our overwhelming support of our Annual Fund. It CAN BE done!”

A preliminary report on Richmond by **Alan Upshall** indicated that the budget took a beating. There were some extra one time costs incurred in setting up the North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW) that will save future expenses. Over \$65,000 was realized in sponsorships to cover Mabon, the Dunvant Choir, Jason Howard, Haydn James and the after dinner entertainment. Local societies also helped by sponsoring seminar speakers. Pre-registration was only 603, below the pessimistic estimate of 800. He felt that all costs would be covered and there will be some profit.

Alan also reported on progress with NAFOW Strategic Planning Committee tasks. Action was still under study on a pricing policy for Programs ads, festival WEB site, and registration fees. A motion was approved to have the headquarters arrange a blanket liability policy for the Nationals. A motion passed to have the WNGGA assume responsibility for hotel negotiations. A letter of interest will be drafted for use in securing proposals for National sites. A Sponsorship search team was established to seek group and corporate sponsorships including Wales International, the Welsh Development Agency and the Wales Tourist Board. Smaller sponsorships would also be included. A reminder was offered on the need to include local people in the planning.

Myfanwy Davies gave an update on plans for the 75th Anniversary celebration in Buffalo and reference was made to past minutes on plans to honor **Nelson L. Llewellyn**. Orlando, FL was selected as the site for the NAFOW in 2005.

Work continues on the Constitution but no amendments were offered for consideration.

The Annual General Meeting was held in Richmond, BC on Saturday, 30 August 2003. **Alan Upshall** gave an update of the legal situation. **Member David Matthews** expressed concern that the legal issues were sapping the energies of the Association and questioned whether countersuing had been considered. Alan replied that there are many options to be looked at. In response to a question, the treasurer replied that so far approximately \$25,000 has been spent on legal fees.

There were 52 life members, 2 annual and 19 representatives of Associated Welsh Organizations present and eligible to vote. Cymru a'r Byd Secretary **Bryan Jones** suggested the WNGGA produce a CD of highlights of previous National Gymanfaoedd for sale in Buffalo next year.

David Jones spoke on behalf of the Women's Welsh Clubs Board and said that despite there being only 6 clubs left they are still active and continue to support the Welsh Home at Rocky River, OH. [Later information indicated that there are eight clubs still active: six in Ohio, one in New York and one in Chicago.]

The Organizational Meeting was held on Sunday morning, 31 August 2003. **Alan Upshall** indicated that estimates ranged from 1,400 to 1,800 attendees at the Grand Concert.

President **Lynn Owens-Whalen** welcomed the newly elected trustees who briefly introduced themselves. She asked all trustees to review the Constitution with regards to trustee responsibilities. She reiterated her goals for the WNGGA and the NAFOW. A motion passed to copyright the NAFOW logo for protection and possible income.

Retiring Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** (gleefully) presented new Executive Director **Dr. John Ellis** with his new name badge and wished him well.

The North American Festival of Wales featuring the 72nd Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, sponsored by the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, was held in Richmond/ Vancouver, BC, Canada on 28-31 August 2003. The schedule of events followed the now normal pattern with Thursday public festival opening ceremonies. The remainder of the weekend was filled with tours, seminars, a Welsh Market Place with Wales Resource Center added to its name, tea room, meetings and scheduled informal singing.

There were some new features. Instead of a Thursday Noson Lawen, there was a West Coast BBQ, a gala opening concert with folk song group MABON, and perspectives on the life of **Dylan Thomas** presented by the Vancouver Dylan Thomas Circle.

MABON is a four piece unit with leader **Derek Smith**, acoustic guitar; **Iolo Whelan**, percussion and low whistle; **Jamie Smith**, accordion; and **Gareth Whelan**, fiddle. It is considered one of Wales' finest folk performance and dance bands and made its first visit to North America. A further departure from the formalized Noson Lawen, normal at the Nationals, was found in POEMS and PINTS scheduled for after hours Thursday and Friday nights. This was an attempt to return to the true basis of a Noson Lawen—relaxed and informal free entertainment [surely helped by the pints] with no tickets or controlled performance setting.

On Friday, there was a fund raiser for the WNGGA in the form of the JOHN BISHOP GOURMET DINNER hosted by Welsh born chef and Vancouver TV personality **John Bishop**, owner of Vancouver's finest 5 star restaurant. The eisteddfod for story telling and adult soloists was held with **Megan Jones Davidson** adjudicating the story telling and **Jason Howard** the singing. The festival grand banquet included entertainment provided by master of ceremonies and talented harpist **Bronn Journey**, his soprano wife **Katherine Journey** and **Paul Kawabori**. While both Bronn and Paul are proud of their Welsh heritage, Katherine, with no Welsh connections other than her husband, delights Welsh audiences with her excellent rendering of many songs in the Welsh language.

The eisteddfod for semi-professional singers was held on Saturday with **Jason Howard** continuing his duties as adjudicator while the main accompanist continued to be **Jeffrey Howard**. The festival grand concert presented the **Dunvant Male Choir**, formed in 1895 and the longest performing male choir in Wales, The choir was under the direction of **Timothy Rhys-Evans** with baritone Jason Howard and accompanist Jeffrey Howard. The Dunvant Choir captured the top prize at the 2002

Wales' National Eisteddfod at St. Davids. Timothy Rhys-Evans created a special theme *Wales—A Musical Journey* “to illustrate how Wales has changed and keeps changing, and how music has greatly influenced life within Welsh communities.” Baritone Jason Howard, from Merthyr Tydfil in Wales, now lives in Toronto with his family. Jason was a member of the Dowlais Male Voice Choir and a professional fireman. His life changed after studying at Trinity College of Music in London and the Royal College of Music. He is one of Wales' leading singers with an international reputation as an operatic star and soloist. He was the only UK winner in the 1992 Pavarotti Voice Competition in Philadelphia. [Faye and I were at this competition and I had the opportunity of congratulating Jason on his winning.] Jeffrey Howard, accompanist for the Dunvant Male Choir, the Sunday church service and the sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu, lives in Cardiff where he earned a B. Mus. Degree from the University of Wales, Cardiff. His advanced organ and church music courses at the Royal Academy of Music resulted in several prizes for piano and organ performance.

Reverend Ben Rees, of Liverpool preached the sermon at the Welsh-English Church Service and Bronn and Katherine Journey provided special music. Eleven year old **Kaeli Alexander** and nine year old **Trevor Pewarchuk** assisted during the Ceremony of the Roses Memorial to the deceased members of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

The National Gymanfa Ganu has been held in many different places: churches, theaters, academies of music, convention centers, and basketball courts. In Wilkes-Barre, it was held in a National Guard Armory. Another first was achieved in Richmond where it was held in a hockey rink, the Richmond Winter Club. **Haydn James**, the Musical Director of the London (UK) Welsh Male Voice Choir and of Côr Meibion De Cymru (South Wales Male Choir) conducted at both sessions. Haydn, with an international reputation in musical direction, has conducted at no less than seven of the Festivals of Male Choirs at the Royal Albert Hall in London. He has also led the massed spectator singing prior to Wales' home rugby international games since 1998. He has been guest conductor at several annual Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Festivals and directed at the Pacific Northwest Welsh Weekend. In 2000, he brought Côr Meibion De Cymru to Ottawa to sing at the 69th Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. Both sessions of the Gymanfa followed traditional order with 16 hymns in the afternoon and 13 in the evening followed with the Welsh National Anthem and *God Be With you*. Winners of the amateur and semi-professional eisteddfod provided special music.

At last report, the WNGGA realized approximately \$28,000 from this first North American Festival of Wales. If so, great credit is owed to **Lynn Owen Whalen** and **Alan Upshall** and their local committee members for their outstanding work in overcoming obstacles beyond their control.

SPONSORS/PATRONS

As in Columbus 1998, individuals, groups and corporations who provided support in the form of sponsorships played an important part in the success of the 2003 North American Festival of Wales. They were especially important this year as the WNGGA again faced lower registrations because of the continued problems of reduced and restricted travel. There are just not enough words to express the

deep and sincere appreciation for this support so essential to the financial success of the first North American Festival of Wales. See App. L for details on sponsorship.

Gren Thomas, Strongbow Resources Inc. and Navigator Resources Inc.-Appearance of the Dunvant Male Choir

Wales Tourist Board-Appearance of International Operatic Baritone Jason Howard.

David G. Morris, Florida-Eisteddfod Semi-professional Solo Competition

Colonel Alf and Mrs. Faye Reese, Pennsylvania-Appearance of Gymanfa Conductor Haydn James.

University of Wales Institute, Cardiff-Appearance of Seminar Speaker Terry Breverton.

The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth-appearance of Eirionedd Baskerville, Genealogy

Welsh Books Council-General Support

John Bishop, Bishop's Restaurant-Vancouver-Fund Raising Dinner.

Bill Palmer, White Rock-Publicity

The Vancouver Welsh Society-Multicultural Tour Luncheon.

The Victoria Welsh Society-Appearance of Gaynor Samuel, Welsh Lessons.

The Puget Sound Welsh Association-Appearance of Bronn & Katherine Journey and Paul Kawabori.

The Welsh Association of the Pacific Northwest-Appearance of John Baker, Welsh Journeys Seminars.

The Welsh North American Chamber of Commerce-Welsh Business Seminar.

John Laxton-General Support

The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir-General Support and Ticket Sales.

Tourism Vancouver

Tourism Richmond

MEDIA SPONSORS

CBC Radio Canada-

Y Drych

Ninnau

The Celtic Connection

Yr Enfys—Cymru a'r Byd (Wales International)

Special acknowledgments go to the many individual volunteers without whom a National is not possible. Special thanks also go to the **Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir, the Vancouver Welsh Dancers and the Cambrian Circle Singers of Vancouver** for their contributions to the Richmond City Hall Opening Ceremonies. These thanks are also extended to the **Vancouver Orpheus Choir** for their organization of the Friday night "Poems and Pints." Perhaps this type event should become a regular part of the NAFOW.

Commentary

I never like chasing ghosts but I believe a cautionary note is appropriate regarding the recent inclusion of other Celtic nations in the North American Festival of Wales. The Welsh population on the North American continent is small in comparison to that of the Scots and Irish. It has been my experience that these ethnic groups are heavily financed with much greater participation in their annual events. App. K. lists some of the reasons for this. Let's not become submerged in joint activities or festivals to the extent of losing our Welsh identification.

Another caution is appropriate and that concerns dependence on agencies in Wales for success of the North American Festival of Wales. The WNGGA must develop sources of support on the North American continent to assure its independence and ability to conduct activities in support of and to benefit the Welsh community this side of the Atlantic.

It was becoming obvious that expenses have to be reduced in line with income. Budgeted deficits are not the solution. They are the warning. While the executive director's compensation was increased to \$4,000 some arrangement is needed to limit the executive director's out of pocket payment of expenses related to his work for the Association. New printing techniques must be introduced to reduce build up in publications inventory. Additional new sources of income must be located and maximized. The alternative is that the organization must face and accept reduced headquarters' activities to levels supported by income.

CHAPTER 16

Conclusion

This has been a long and fascinating task that has taken over eight years to complete. The first six years were used gathering and studying relative core material from primary sources mainly minutes and Programs. The last two years were spent following leads gained during the study and in writing and revising what I hope will be found to be an interesting story.

It would be impossible for anyone delving this deeply into the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (WNGGA), and its earlier named predecessors, not to reach some conclusions about its past and future. I'm sure my friends in the Welsh Community on the North American Continent would be greatly surprised if I were to leave this undone.

My intent is to be constructive. I have too much admiration for the many volunteers who have made significant sacrifices in contributing to the success of the Association to be otherwise. Along the way, it has been my privilege to work closely with many of these volunteers who I consider personal friends.

While all of the conclusions in this chapter were derived from this writing, there is nothing original about them. Beginning with the National, they are all important. Those concerning membership and the age of our members are vital.

THE NATIONAL

The National is the centerpiece that provides the opportunity to celebrate and display the Gymanfa Ganu as the fondest expression of Welsh culture and heritage. As the centerpiece, it offers a venue for other elements of Welshness such as the bi-lingual church service, the eisteddfod, the noson lawen, Welsh vocal and instrumental artistry, seminars on Welsh subjects, and the Welsh Marketplace. For many, the National is the first awakening to their Welsh culture, heritage and language.

The National is a complex and challenging undertaking for volunteers. With one exception, there is no regularly paid staff that is available to arrange a National. It is always arranged under difficult time and distance restraints. The Nationals must make money. With the Board of Trustees assuming greater responsibility, a greater part of the proceeds from a National must go to the Association's treasury. A break even National or, worse, a money loser does nothing to perpetuate the National Gymanfa Ganu. There is little room for experimenting. Recent financial failures resulted from failure to follow guidelines and experienced advice. In some cases, competition entered the picture with one sponsoring committee trying to outdo the other with disturbing results. A SET OF CURRENT RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING ALL ASPECTS OF ARRANGING AND CONDUCTING A NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU IS REQUIRED AND MUST BE FOLLOWED.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is a difficult task made more so by natural assimilation, by drift away from traditional values and by the demands for time in a more modern, rapidly moving world. Membership is and will remain the most important task facing the Board of Trustees of the WNGGA. It has not always seemed so. Many reports and words have addressed the subject without producing many new members. It has been left to past secretaries and executive directors whose work produced members. Even the limited advertising in the National Programs was pro forma in nature. It is not as though the fields are not fertile. The word discouraging best describes 2,709 WNGGA members in the United States out of 2,034,000 Welsh-Americans reported in the 1990 census. I am not convinced that everything is being done to gain memberships from those attending a National who are not members (always hovering around 50%). Until a face to face invitation, or at least a personal letter invitation from a trustee in their area, is extended with a telephone follow up, we are not beginning to do the job. This is the challenge that must be met by each member of the Board of Trustees. The hallmark of a successful tour as a trustee should be the number of members he/she has added to the rolls. **GAINING AND RETAINING MEMBERS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT SINGLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**

AGE-OLDER AND YOUNGER

The next challenge may be surprising in that it concerns the 20-59 (31.2%) age group. This is the group that after all is the source of our renewable resource our children. The National must be redesigned to attract more of this group. The North American Festival of Wales is a start in this direction. Is it heresy to think that more Poems and Pints may be a step in the right direction? Is contemporary dancing out of order? The four-day weekend is sufficiently long to accommodate changes without degrading the devotional importance of the Sunday church service and two sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu.

Once the parents provide the youth, the job of the WNGGA is to keep them interested. This cannot be done if, after a certain age, they are not able to attend a National because of competing schedules or interests. The answer is not to change the date of the National. The answer is to recognize the incompatibility of grouping together those of age up to 30 (at one time it was 39). Two separate programs are needed to accommodate two different age groups: those not old enough to travel alone and those who are. Now is the time for the new Youth Initiative Committee to implement suggestions for two levels of scheduling for our youth: one with activities of interest for pre and early teens at the Nationals and the other for later teens and young adults during the summer and on a college campus. With participants paying their way and some reasonable part of the provided attractions, resources are available to support both programs.

THE DOLLAR

It was not easy to place financial management after membership and youth and doing so does not reduce its importance. The management of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association must overcome its aversion to asking for money. Throughout its history one can read of concerns over "commercialization of the gymanfa" and "too much emphasis on the dollar." The emphasis on "what does one get for their dues" is a reflection of this conservatism that ignores the real reasons why people attend a National.

Frequent suggestions regarding renewal of life memberships or contributions from those who have benefited from a \$20 or \$30 life membership have gone untried. End of year opportunities go by and go by while other non-profits constantly remind their members and contributors of the tax advantages of giving.

Except for an occasional reminder in *HWYL*, there is no personal approach to advise of the tax advantages of Planned Giving techniques. How wonderful that some members thought to remember the Association in their wills without any reminder or encouragement from that same Association.

Support of the Annual Fund must be expanded. Every organization I belong to or contribute to remembers to ask for a special end of the year contribution to their Annual Fund. Goals for each year's Annual Fund should be established, as much as possible, one year in advance and tied to desired needs.

Corporate sponsorship of a National or the WNGGA has been ignored. An out of date listing contained the name of 149 US and Canadian corporations with operations in Wales. The WNGGA should be attractive to these and other corporations since so much can be gained with so little outlay. An annual \$2,000 contribution from ten sponsoring corporations goes a long way to reduce or even eliminate the annual budgetary deficit of the WNGGA.

If the National Gymanfa Ganu is important enough to preserve and promote as an expression of Welsh culture and heritage, then it is also important to preserve and promote the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. It is the dollar that will do this.

ADMINISTRATION

A budget is a control device. When it does not control, developing an annual budget is a worthless waste of time. Counting on unlikely income to cover a budgeted deficit, such as dues from a sudden influx of new members when there is not even a tentative plan to get the new members, is a dream. A deficit must be accommodated either with increased income or reduced expenses.

Administrative costs must be reduced by cut backs or delays to levels supported by income. With today's modern communications and computer proliferation, consideration should be given to farming our routine work to trustees. Publication inventories should be lowered through attrition and advantage taken of new printing techniques to maintain lower inventories.

There is need for an institutional memory and effective follow up on decisions of the Board of Trustees. Reports of progress should be required until decisions are fully implemented or terminated by board action.

The opening paragraph of Chapter 1 deserves repeating. The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is the premier ethnic organization serving the Welsh Community of North America. Its Purpose, defined in its Constitution, is “To preserve, develop, and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage and our religious and cultural traditions, including but not limited to the Gymanfa Ganu, and to do all things necessary and proper to accomplish and enhance the same”. It has been exceedingly successful in carrying out this stated purpose. It is recognized throughout the world as the principal exponent of Welsh culture, heritage and the Welsh language in North America. The Gymanfa Ganu, The Assembly or Festival for Sacred Song, is the principal instrument in carrying out its Purpose.

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is a truly unique organization in North America. What other organization can be found here whose primary purpose is to gather together on a national holiday weekend to sing hymns in a foreign language? The Association has grown and the weekend events have also grown to include a wider variety of activities. Yet, the Gymanfa Ganu, The Assembly or Festival for Sacred Song, remains the principal reason for the Association’s existence and its extended weekend gathering.

Why does it continue to exist and flourish in today’s world? From its earliest days, when more importance was attached to matters of faith, concerns were expressed about its longevity. There were repeated hopes that “we can keep the Gymanfa Ganu alive for a long time.” There were also repeated threats that “if we do not attract youth, the Gymanfa Ganu will die.” Why has this not happened? Gymanfaoedd were always local chapel-based celebrations that could have gone the way of the esiteddfod in the United States.

It has not happened because there was and is an organization devoted to its preservation and advancement. I believe the WNGGA was and is an important part of the cycle of growth in popularity of the Gymanfa Ganu in the United States and Canada. Evidence of this growth can be found in the increasing number of gymanfaoedd reported in the North American Welsh media. Local gymanfaoedd provide the participants who find renewed interest, enjoy meeting their friends and benefit from all the activities provided at Nationals. They publicize the Nationals and encourage their friends to attend. The Nationals attract first time visitors who become gymanfa enthusiasts and provide the leadership for organizing gymanfaoedd in their local areas. The WNGGA manages to keep the idea alive by assuring visibility beyond the local level. Many like myself first experienced a gymanfa at the national level and were inspired to sponsor or encourage them in their local areas. The WNGGA provides the incentive and the tools required to do so.

The WNGGA faces many challenges. One of the greatest is the development and production of a documentary on the Welsh of North America. We are all familiar with and have seen Public Broadcasting productions around St. Patrick’s Day. We all know about the gathering of the Clans at

various locations around this country. The Germans, the Polish and the Italians have all benefited from similar publicity. The Welsh immigrants to the United States and Canada, who contributed so much to the “Lands of Their Choice” are unknown even among themselves. A documentary is probably beyond the capability of the WNGGA alone. It is not beyond the capability of the WNGGA to assume a leadership position.

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association is the foremost exponent of the Gymanfa Ganu in the world. It has earned and deserves continued and increased support from all Welsh descendants and their friends on both sides of the Atlantic.

APPENDIX A

THE WNGGA CONSTITUTION

THE NAME

It all started as the National Gymanfa Association. It became the National Gymanfa Ganu Association in the 1931 Program. The cover of the 1935 Constitution and By Laws listed its name as the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada. However, a motion to change the name of the Association to “The National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada, Inc.” was defeated in 1938 at Pittsburgh. The Articles of Incorporation, of 12 July 1951, filed in The Office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, OH on 31 July 1951 incorporated the Association as the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada, Inc. A Certificate of Amendment, dated 2 September 1971 and approved on the 14th day of February 1972, changed the name to The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

THE 1935 CONSTITUTION

The first Constitution and By Laws was approved at the meeting, of September 1, 1935, held during the Seventh National in Youngstown. Specific provisions of this document included:

PURPOSE-To promote Welsh Hymnology and aim for its enhancement in both conception and rendition, thereby preserving a befitting characteristic of the Welsh American people.

MEMBERSHIP-Any Welsh, Welsh-American or Welsh-Canadian church or social organization, in the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, in sympathy with the stated purpose of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association shall be eligible to membership therein, as well as individuals who qualify as herein stated.

OFFICERS- The officers of the Association shall consist of president, two vice presidents, secretary, treasurer, and a standing music committee of three (3) members.

OPERATION- The organization of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association shall be permanently continued by token of the pleasure and wisdom of the officers, the personnel of the standing music committee, and delegates chosen by the respective member organizations who shall gather together annually on or about the Labor Day Sunday of September for the dispatch of business and the furtherance of the spiritual purpose of the Association.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE- The elected officers of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association shall constitute an executive board with full authority of the Association to deal with and pass on any extraordinary matters that may arise between annual meetings.

FINANCE- The Association will receive its financial support from dues annually paid to its treasury by the organization, individual memberships, by donations and endowment; and the receipt of forty per cent of any and all surplus accruing from the local committee sponsoring the annual gymanfa.

THE ANNUAL GYMANFA- On or about Labor Day Sunday of each year a National Gymanfa Ganu shall be held. The venue shall have been decided by the delegates, by majority vote, at the stated business meeting of the previous year. The organization member who shall be accorded the responsibility of the festival beforehand agrees to maintain the dignity and traditions of the Association, and by its own initiative to meet the expense of its maintenance for that year by its sale of National Gymanfa hymn books, admissions, collections and donations; and to coordinate fully with the Association

PROGRESS- The National Gymanfa Ganu Association in its wisdom may undertake to inspire the composition of new works and to print and publish, or otherwise propagate, whatever it may decide is a furtherance of its objective and likely to reflect glory on its endeavors in a spiritual sense.

BY-LAWS- The annual dues of membership organization shall be \$1.00 payable in advance to the Association treasury. Such membership entitles the organization member to a delegate at the annual meeting of the Association and a voice and vote in its deliberations.

Individual membership, without voting privileges, may be secured on the payment of twenty-five (25) cents or more per year to the Association treasury. Honorary life membership with full privilege will be accorded to any Welsh-American interested in the promotion of the work of the Association who shall contribute \$25.00 (or more) to the Association.

ANNUAL MEETING- The annual meeting of the Association will be held at the time and place of the annual National Gymanfa Ganu, the venue of which shall be decided by the delegates assembled at the annual stated meeting.

ELECTION- The officers of the Association shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer who shall be nominated and elected in 1935 and alternate years thereafter, by the majority vote of the delegates assembled at the stated annual meeting, who shall serve for the two years next succeeding or until their successors have been elected and installed

A second vice president shall be annually nominated and elected to serve for one year by the member organization successfully bidding for the venue and sponsorship of the next year's festival. The vice president so chosen shall be the chairman of the local committee of arrangements for the festival for that particular year and with whom the National Gymanfa Ganu Association are beforehand committed to cooperate for the success of the respective annual gymanfa.

SPONSORSHIP OF THE ANNUAL GYMANFA- The organization sponsoring the annual National Gymanfa Ganu will formulate the program and all arrangements of the festival other than that the association hymn book shall be utilized.

MUSIC COMMITTEE- A music committee of three persons of distinctive qualifications shall be nominated and elected annually, at the stated meeting, which shall be committed to the work of selecting music and Hymnology approved of the Association. To compile the same in a manner that will avail a standard booklet for general use of the Association membership. It is the sense of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association, that while the popular Welsh hymn classics are to be preserved, new editions should be made from time to time of the modern compositions, and their popularity among the membership encouraged.

QUORUM- Three members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum. Fifteen (15) shall constitute a quorum at the annual meeting.

AMENDMENTS- The Constitution and By Laws of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association may be amended or repealed at any regular meeting by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the delegates present at such meeting.

Amendments to the 1935 Constitution and By Laws.

Pittsburgh 1938- A motion to amend the By Laws to change the name of the Association to “The National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada, Inc.” was defeated. An amendment to the above motion “That a committee be appointed to look into the matter of incorporation and report to the NEC in the next six months” carried and a committee was appointed. Another motion “that the name of the Association be changed to International Gymanfa Ganu Association was amended and moved “That this motion be referred to the Committee on Incorporation” and carried. An amendment “That the number of Vice Presidents be increased from two to three, one of whom shall be a resident of Canada” was approved. President Hopkins was authorized, in conjunction with the NEC, to name the Vice President from Canada.

Akron 1947- Amendments were approved authorizing the Executive Board to “add to its number” and changing quorum requirements to “A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. Forty shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting”.

Salt Lake City 1949- Amendments that the “Immediate Past President shall become a member of the Executive Board, (ex officio) and that “the President of the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America shall be a member (ex officio) of the Executive Board” were approved. An amendment that “the number of Vice- Presidents be increased to six, one to be from Canada (in case the President is from the States), one from the Western States, one from the Central States, one from the Eastern States, one from the Southern States, and one from the Committee sponsoring the National was further amended and approved. It was referred to a committee to work out the best plan for increasing the number of Vice Presidents.

Columbus 1952- Amendments were approved to change the name of the Executive Committee to the Executive Board and to authorize an additional vice-president who shall be a woman.

Salt Lake City 1955- An approved amendment stated that “The President shall not be eligible to succeed himself, but may be eligible for re-nomination and re-election to said office after one term shall have elapsed.” Another amendment increased the vice-presidents to nine (9) plus the chairman of the sponsoring committee who became a vice-president for the year his committee was sponsoring the National Gymanfa Ganu. The nine vice-presidents were distributed as follows: Canada-2 for a 2 year term, US West-1 for a 1 year term, US Mid-West-1 for a 1 year term, US Central-2 for a 1 year term, US East-2 for a 1 year term, and 1 to be a woman for a 1 year term.

Washington, DC 1957- the following amendment to the Constitution and By Laws was approved: “that the President of a Sponsoring Committee shall be a National Vice President, for the year

following the National”. Reason for the amendment-the Association would have the experience gained during the year of preparation for the National.

THE 1958 CONSTITUTION

A new Constitution and By Laws for the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada, Inc. was approved at the 1958 Annual meeting in Milwaukee. Significant provisions of this Constitution and By Laws included the following:

ARTICLE I named the Association as above and referred to it as THE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II-PURPOSE was greatly expanded to permit a wider range of activities to carry out the objects and purpose of THE ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE III-MEMBERSHIP simplified membership qualifications to “Any person of Welsh lineage” and expanded qualification to “any person or organization in full sympathy with the stated purpose”. For the first time, this amendment extended the vote to individual members.

ARTICLE IV-LEGISLATIVE established a Board of Trustees to govern THE ASSOCIATION. The Board of Trustees was composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and seventeen elected Trustees, three from the Western area, five from Canada, and nine from the Area East of the Mississippi River. The term of office was set at three years with seven to be elected in 1959, five in 1960, and five in 1961 with the same ratios of elections thereafter.

ARTICLE V-OFFICERS set the terms of office for the officers at two years and or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The President shall not succeed himself; however, he may be elected after a lapse of two years. It specified that if the President is resident of the United States the Vice President shall be a resident of Canada and vice versa. It stated that the Secretary and Treasurer may be one and the same person. [This provision was used immediately by designating George Bundy as the Secretary-Treasurer.] The Constitution stated that the Board of Trustees shall nominate and elect officers and that the officers of THE ASSOCIATION shall automatically be members of the Board of Trustees with full voting rights.

ARTICLE VI-EX OFFICIO OFFICERS stated that the President of the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America shall be an ex officio Vice President during her term of office. The President of the Sponsoring Organization of the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu and the President of any Regional Gymanfa Ganu shall be ex officio Vice Presidents during their respective terms of office.

ARTICLE VII-NATIONAL HONORARY OFFICERS may be designated by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VIII-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall be the officers of THE ASSOCIATION with authority and duties as delegated by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE IX-MEETINGS stated that the Annual Gymanfa Ganu shall be held on Labor Day Sunday. The annual meeting shall be held at the time and place of the Annual Gymanfa Ganu with the

day and hour to be decided by the Executive Committee. The venue for the annual national shall be decided by a majority vote of the delegates at the annual meeting two years in advance where possible. If not decided two years in advance, it shall be decided at the next annual meeting. In the event there is no bidder, the Board of Trustees shall secure a sponsor. This article stated the specifics for the conduct of the gymanfa, established the responsibilities of the sponsoring committee, and the relationships between the sponsoring committee and the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE X-THE REGIONAL GYMANFA GANU set out the specifics on the conduct of regional gymanfaedd.

ARTICLE XI-AMENDMENTS set out the details on amendments and filling vacancies on the Board of Trustees between Annual meetings.

The By Laws detailed the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees and procedures for distribution of assets in THE ASSOCIATION, if it is dissolved, to charitable organizations in accordance with IRS rules and regulations in the United States and the Income Tax Act and Regulations in Canada. They also set out the POWERS AND DUTIES OF NATIONAL OFFICERS, establishment of committees and established quorums of a majority of trustees for Board of Trustees meetings and forty members of THE ASSOCIATION for Annual meetings. The By Laws established the Individual and Organization Annual membership dues as \$2, Life membership fee for any Organization or Individual was set at \$10 or more, and any Organization contributing \$25 or more shall be entitled to a Charter as a member organization. All dues shall be payable in advance.

[It is interesting to note that for the election of trustees following approval of the Constitution, the minutes incorrectly stated “nominations for the 15 members of the Board of Trustees” whereas the Constitution authorized 17 (3-Western U.S., 5-Canada, and 9-Eastern U.S.) There were six nominations for Western U.S.; three for Canada and two had to be added from the floor, and 9-Eastern U.S. While apparently the full 17 member Board of Trustees was elected, there was no reporting of the results of the election in the minutes of the 1958 Annual Meeting. Abbreviated Minutes of the August 30, 1958 stated that “thirty nominations were voted on, with the result as shown on the letterhead on which the Agenda for this meeting is printed”.]

Amendments to the 1958 Constitution

Toronto 1959- Amendments were approved deleting the word “trustee” from the last sentence of Article IV (1). Article X was changed as follows: “A Regional Gymanfa Ganu may be held each year either two months before or two months after the National Gymanfa Ganu, except the year when the National Gymanfa Ganu is scheduled to be held in Western Regional Territory.”

San Francisco 1960- Amendments to the following articles were approved.

Article IV. Section 1-the Immediate Retiring President was added to the Board of Trustees and, in Article IV Section 2,the term of the Immediate Retiring President was set at two years.

Article V Section 6 was supplemented with “The Board of Trustees shall elect annually such assistants as the Board deems necessary”.

Chicago 1961- the following amendments were approved:

Article V to read in part: “The term of assistants shall be two years” and not one as now designated.

Supplement to Article XI, Section 2 as follows: “Any amendments or supplementary additions to the Constitution and By Laws shall be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees for consideration and approval...”

Proposed amendments that were rejected included one adding “in the United States and Canada” to the end of Article II-Purpose that was considered unnecessary since the name of the Association included those words. A proposal designating membership years as a requirement for becoming a trustee or president and vice-president should be given further thought by the NEC and trustees. Designating the time of the annual meeting was left to the discretion of the NEC. A proposed amendment confining duties of the NEC to “extraordinary matters that may arise between meetings” was left to the power of the board.

Utica 1962-The Board considered eight proposed amendments. Only two were recommended to the members: (1). that the NEC investigate the venue of the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu two years ahead and (2) that the Board of Trustees be given the power to select the venue and that requests to sponsor a National be in six months before being presented to the Board, that is 2 ½ years before the event.

Proposed amendments not approved for presentation to the membership were: (3) Including the immediate past president on the NEC, (4) Providing for the election of assistants, (5) Abolishing the office of Recording Secretary, (6) Deletion of Section 3, Article V on the president not succeeding himself, (7) Deletion of Section 6, Article V which provides for election of officers by Board of Trustees (this proposal originated in OGGA), and (8) That the NGGA be given full responsibility for the Annual National Gymanfa. This latter proposal included appointment of the director (conductor), musicians, hymns, and complete control of all financial implications. Only responsibility for local matters, such as producing the Program and hospitality, would have been left with the local committee. Proposal (2) above was amended “except in the event a prospective sponsor must give more than two years notice to secure suitable hotel headquarters for the annual National Gymanfa Ganu, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees” and approved at the general meeting.

Philadelphia 1964- The following amendment, suggested by the St. David’s Society of S. E. Florida, was tabled at the Annual Meeting: “When the National is held in the East, a Regional Gymanfa Ganu may be held in the West or South, and when the National is held in the West, a Regional Gymanfa Ganu may be held in the East or South.”

Pittsburgh 1965- The following amendments were considered and approved for presentation to the Annual General Meeting where they were approved.

Article IV Section 1 to read “The Association shall be governed by a Board of Trustees which shall be composed of seventeen elected members, the President, the Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer may or may not be an

elected Trustee and, if not an elected Trustee, shall by virtue of such office automatically be a member of the Board of Trustees with full voting rights during his or her term of office.” This was amended to add the Immediate Past President back into the article.

Article IV Section 2 to read “The term of office of an elected Trustee shall be three years. There shall be three Trustees from the area West of the Mississippi River, five from Canada and nine from the area East of the Mississippi River.

Article V Section 7 on officers on the Board of Trustees to be deleted.

Article VII to read “The Honorary Officer or Officers shall be such persons as may be designated by the Board of Trustees and such honor shall be for a term of one year only.”

Article VIII to read “The Executive Committee of the Association shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and shall have such authority and duties set forth in the Constitution and as may be delegated by the Board of Trustees.”

Article IX Section 3 to read “The venue of the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu shall be decided by the Board of Trustees, two years in advance if possible, after complete investigation of proper facilities and the ability of the sponsoring committee. In the event no responsible sponsoring organization has made a bid or, in the opinion of Board, the facilities are not adequate or proper, the Board shall secure a sponsor.”

Article XI Section 2 to read “Any amendments or supplementary additions to the Constitution and By Laws shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval, not less than thirty days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting.”

Jack Meadows referred to Article III expressing fear of a possible infiltration of undesirable persons into the Association’s membership and suggested stricter controls. The Board did not feel there was a need for concern.

Buffalo 1968- the following amendments were approved for presentation to the Annual General Meeting:

Article IV, Item 2 “A Trustee completing two consecutive three-year terms of office shall not be eligible for re-election for the following two years.”

Article IX, Item 1 “The Annual National Gymanfa Ganu of the Association shall be held on Labor Day Sunday or at such time the Board of Trustees shall determine.”

Cleveland 1969- An amendment adding the Immediate Past President to the Executive Committee was approved.

THE 1971 CONSTITUTION

At the Annual General Meeting of Sept. 4, 1971 a revised and completely reprinted Constitution and By Laws was approved as recommended by the Board of Trustees. This became the Sept 1971

issue. A major change renamed the Association THE WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION, INC.

Article III on membership was changed to add “as stated in the signed application for membership” between Association and shall. The remaining part of Article regarding eligibility of organizational delegates and individuals in good standing to vote was deleted. [This deletion, particularly as it pertains to organizational delegates, was to cause trouble in future years until the article on Eligibility to Vote was returned in the 1978 Constitution. The 1971 Constitution described elections without identifying the electors.]

Jack Meadows again expressed concern that “we were leaving ourselves wide open for any to join other than our own Welsh people. The President was confident that “we have enough strength in this organization toward proper membership”.

[Once again, there was a lot of discussion on whether or not the Immediate Past President should be a member of the Executive Committee. Those in favor cited his experience. Those opposed thought his presence would result in looking over the shoulder of the new President.] Article VIII, as recommended by the committee, reversed the amendment of Aug. 30, 1969 and excluded the Immediate Past President from the Executive Committee.

The Committee recommended retention of Article IX specifying the time of the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu in spite of comments recommending a change to consider the start of schools.

THE 1978 CONSTITUTION

At the Annual Meeting in Minneapolis 1978, a new Constitution was approved by a vote of 107 in favor and 4 opposed. Main corrections, changes, and new provisions included: (1) election of nominating committee by BOT, (2) providing that a National Officer shall open both sessions of the gymanfa, (3) a 50/50% split of the net proceeds between the National treasury and the local sponsoring committee, (4) election of the Chairman of the Endowment Fund, (5) election of secretary and treasurer to 3 year term with second term possible and with anything beyond 6 years subject to approval of the membership at the 5 year point with each subsequent election subject to the same procedure, (6) the addition of a member-at-large from the Board to the Executive Committee, and (7) an increase in dues that will have to be paid by July 31 to entitle the member to vote.

Changes approved during the annual meeting included giving a vote to the President or Vice President of WAY and the vote to a representative of The Woman’s Welsh Clubs of America. The provisions regarding eligibility to vote were returned in the 1978 constitution

Amendments to the 1978 Constitution

Montreal 1985- An amendment to Article III to insert “non-profit” before organization and to make Articles XVI and XVII consistent with this correction was approved. This was never submitted to the general membership at an annual meeting as prescribed by the Constitution. An amendment giv-

ing jurisdiction to the Auditing Committee to audit the Endowment Fund was approved at the annual meeting.

Columbus 1986- An amendment to Article IX to permit the Secretary and Treasurer and Chairman of the Endowment Fund to be residents of Canada carried. Amendment of article XXII was approved clarifying that a 75% approval of those present is required to amend the Constitution.

Pittsburgh 1989- An amendment passed establishing the President of the National Welsh-American Foundation as an ex-officio Vice President of the Association and authorizing attendance at meetings without a vote unless as a trustee.

Victoria, BC 1990- An amendment passed establishing a membership committee consisting of 12 members including the Chairman. This detailed amendment divided members into three classes beginning with members to be appointed at the 1990 annual meeting: four (4) members of the First Class shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year; four (4) members of the Second Class shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; and four (4) members of the Third Class shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. At each succeeding annual meeting, the successors to the class of members whose term expires shall be appointed to hold office for a term of three (3) years commencing on the day of the annual meeting. Vacancies shall be filled for an unexpired (term) by appointment of the President. The responsibility, duties, and operation of the committee shall be determined by a Code of Regulations to be adopted by the committee. Such Code of Regulations shall be subject to approval of the Board of Trustees. The Committee shall present an annual report at the annual meeting of the Trustees and at the annual meeting of the members. [I do not recall that this overly detailed amendment was ever completely implemented. If it was, it did not last very long. The entire article was deleted in 1994.]

Wilkes-Barre 1993- Article XVIII was changed to require a 2/3rds vote rather than a 75% vote to approve amendments.

Article XVI was changed removing the amount of dues from the Constitution. Setting the amount of dues was left to the Board of Trustees with approval of the membership.

An additional change removed the requirement to provide each member with a copy of the Constitution and amendments thereto. This was done to reduce expenses The Constitution will be provided to any member upon request.

THE 1994 CONSTITUTION

A gender neutral Constitution and amendments were approved at the 1994 Annual General Meeting in Bellevue, WA.

Article VII-NOMINATING COMMITTEE was amended to provide for the Nominating Committee to consist of the three most recent available past national presidents with the chairperson being the immediate past president. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of nominees for vacancies on the Board of Trustees and for national officers of the Association.

Article IX-ELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS. There were no changes to Sections a), b), c), d), g), and h). The amendment to section e) provided for the terms of four officers to be

for two years with the remainder of the section unchanged. The amendment to section f) authorized the re-election of the Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer to their respective offices or to other offices following the completion of their term.

Article X RECORDING SECRETARY was deleted.

Article XI ASSISTANTS. The words “the Recording Secretary” were deleted.

Article XIII MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE was deleted.

Article XIV DUTIES OF OFFICERS was amended as follows: Section a)-President-no change, Section b)-Vice President “shall perform duties that may reasonably be required by the president, the Executive Committee, or the Board of Trustees. Section c) Secretary was revised to specify duties of the Secretary primarily as a recording secretary. The only change to Section d) was to specify performance of duties that may be reasonably required by the President, the Executive Committee or the Board of Trustees.

A NEW ARTICLE established the position of a non-voting Executive Director, for a term of three years with renewal at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, and defined the Executive Directors duties.

An amendment removed the voting privilege of the President of the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America.

Article XXVI-INTERPRETATION on gender was deleted.

The amendments led to renumbering of articles and printing of a new Constitution amended through September 1994.

Amendments to the 1994 Constitution

The 1999 Constitution Review Committee, chaired by Alan Upshall, reported progress in proposed amendments with changes in the format, an increase in the number and distribution of trustees, and changes in Honorary and Ex-officio officers.

Minneapolis 1999- Proposed amendments to the 1994 Constitution were discussed and approved for presentation to the Annual General Meeting. The following amendments were approved.

Deletion of all reference to a regional Gymanfa Ganu.

The President of Undeb Cymru a'r Byd was added to the list of Honorary and Ex-Officio Officers carrying out a reciprocal agreement with Undeb Cymry a'r Byd-Wales International,

An Addendum to the Constitution was added to bring together all information on cosponsoring Nationals. The section on Hymns was added to reflect the intent of the BOT to take more responsibility for the Sunday church service.

Jack Nesbitt indicated that the WNGGA intruded into the church service in Kansas City by refusing to allow the local venue to have a brass band. The President indicated that the WNGGA would not dictate; however, as guardians of the WNGGA Constitution, the WNGGA does have the right to

veto. Many years ago the WNGGA abolished clapping during the church service. In Columbus, people were taking flash pictures of Nelson Llewellyn during the Memorial Service. It was recommended that it is important that the WNGGA clearly indicate expectations to local venues. Written agreements may become necessary.

The geographical balance and representation in Canada was considered very important. The Constitution Committee recommended that this was a matter for the future and could be seen as part of direction given to the Nominating Committee.

Other recommendations of the Constitution Review Committee included: formatting changes, moving or merging articles and spelling out duties of officers with actual procedures left up to them.

Old Article IV SPONSORING ORGANIZATION was moved to an Addendum since it describes arrangements with cosponsoring organizations. The word cosponsor was integrated into the Constitution and requires the cosponsoring local venue committee to be governed by the WNGGA Constitution and to maintain the dignity and traditions of the Association.

An amendment to the Article on ELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY OF TRUSTEES increased the number of trustee representing the West by three to six.

An amendment to the Article on ELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS required that the Treasurer and Executive Director to be citizens of the United States.

The end of the fiscal year was changed to June 30 rather than July 31.

An amendment to the Article on MEETINGS AND VENUE added electronic and facsimile mail as authorized means if correspondence with BOT.

Concern was expressed that the duties of the executive director and treasurer were too prescriptive and could cause difficulties. The only difficulty expressed by the executive director was the requirement for two signatures on even small expenditures. The requirement was retained and the treasurer and executive director were instructed to work out practical procedures at their discretion.

The President recommended that the BOT issue guidance to the Constitution committee on a regular basis. In the past, there had to be major revisions because there was no continual review.

THE 2001 CONSTITUTION

At the 2001 Annual General Meeting in San Jose, amendments intended primarily to change the title of Article 11 to International Headquarters/Executive Director and to more clearly define the functions of the International Headquarters and the Executive Director were approved. Clear definitions included responsibility for an annual operating budget for the International Headquarters and for the WNGGA, making deposits and payments, working with venue committees, hiring staff, and filing legal reports and documents. The treasurer was assigned responsibility for the Endowment Fund. His responsibilities included receiving, recording, reporting and investing monies with the assistance of an investment committee, which he chaired.

A revised Constitution, amended through September 2001, was issued.

Amendments to the 2001 Constitution

Harrisburg 2002- The Board of Trustees returned proposals Nos. 2 and 4 on Membership, 12 on Meetings and Venues and 13 and 14 on Eligibility to Vote to the committee for further consideration. Proposal 2 on Article 3 MEMBERSHIP would have added the word “Welsh” to qualify “organization” eligible for membership. Proposal 4 on Article 3 MEMBERSHIP would have added subparagraphs on Cessation of Membership and Expulsion from Membership. Proposal 12 on Article 13 MEETINGS AND VENUE would have authorized Extraordinary Meetings of the Association with in person voting and, only for such meetings, proxy voting. Proposal 13 on Article 14 ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE would have permitted voting at the Annual Meeting by any individual who paid dues for the current fiscal year prior to the Annual Meeting rather than by the end of the preceding fiscal year. Proposal 14 on Article 14 ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE would have deleted “or any General Meeting” from the second sentence of Section b) on Organizational Members and replaced that wording with “or in person or by proxy at any Extraordinary Meeting.”

Proposals approved by the membership at the 2002 Annual General Meeting included:

Article 3-MEMBERSHIP. An addition defined and added Associated Welsh Organizations.

Articles 5 NOMINATING COMMITTEE and 6-ELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY OF TRUSTEES were modified to replace “ The chairperson” with “The chair” relative to the nominating committee.

Article 9-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE was amended to add the Immediate Past President.

Article 9-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE was amended to authorize the Executive Committee to set up special funds to cover specific needs of the Association separate from the normal operations of the Association and the Endowment Fund. The disposal of these special funds would be recommended by the treasurer to the Board of Trustees.

Article 10-DUTIES OF OFFICERS was amended to add “Immediate’ to Past President.

Article 13-MEETINGS was amended to add “Welsh” between “annual” and “National”.

A new Article 17-YOUTH INITIATIVE COMMITTEE was added to replace WAY (Welsh American Youth) and bring it under the aegis of the WNGGA.

APPENDIX B

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION AND THE WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION

[In all cases, terms of office start and end with the election year. For example, **John Evans** (1935-37), who served as president for two years, was elected at the business meeting of 1935. He continued to serve until replaced during the business meeting of 1937. **George Hopkins** (1937-38), who served as president for one year, was elected at the business meeting of 1937. He served until the election at the business meeting of 1938.]

At a business meeting following the Sunday, September 1, 1929 Gymanfa Ganu, a group of prominent Welsh met to discuss the future of the Gymanfa Ganu. They agreed to hold another Gymanfa Ganu, on the first Sunday in September 1930, at Niagara Falls, NY

The Founding Officers chosen at this meeting were **William E. Lewis** of Youngstown-President, **Ellis Hughes** of Niagara Falls, NY-Vice President, **David Lewis** of Youngstown-Secretary and **W. B. Jones** of Pittsburgh-Treasurer..

During the 1931 business session, **James Attwood** of Youngstown was elected President with four Vice Presidents: **William J. Davies**, Utica NY; **Lot H. Cooke**, Buffalo, NY; **Stephen James**, Hamilton, Ont.; and **Geo. D. Rees**, Chicago, IL: for the coming year. **Ellis Hughes**, Niagara Falls, NY; was elected Secretary and Treasurer **W. B. Jones** continued to serve.

Before the adoption of a Constitution in 1935, there was no prescribed term of office or any limits placed on the number of terms that any officer was permitted to serve. The Founding Officers, elected following the 1929 National Gymanfa Ganu in Niagara Falls, NY, continued to serve until the 1931 National in Niagara Falls, NY. Accordingly, **James Attwood** served for one year, as did the next three presidents. The 1935 Constitution established the offices of president, 2 vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and 3 members of a standing music committee. The term of office for all except the 2nd vice president was set at two years. The 2nd vice president, the chairman of next year's local venue committee, was designated for 1 year. There were no limits on the number of terms served.

John Evans served for two years (1935-1937) and was followed with presidents serving terms of various lengths ranging from 1 to 8 years with **Henry T. Jones'** (1941-49) years of service covering the World War II years 1943-45 when the National was discontinued.

A great deal of movement regarding vice presidents was evident during the period 1932-1957. A 1938 amendment added a 3rd vice president representing Canada. A 1949 amendment established the office of ex officio vice president for the President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America. Another proposed amendment to increase the vice presidents to 6 representing US West, Central, East, Southern, Canada, and the venue chairman was amended to refer the subject to a committee for study and recommendations. As will be seen, this committee's recommendation to increase the number of vice presidents to nine was approved. An amendment in 1952 added another vice president to be filled by a

woman. The 1958 Constitution stabilized the vice presidency. [Formatting problems forced me to list vice presidents, other than the first likely to succeed to the presidency, in a separate section of this appendix.]

At the annual meeting of 1955 in Salt Lake City an amendment was approved as follows: The President shall not be eligible to succeed himself, but may be eligible for re-nomination and re-election to said office after one term shall have elapsed”.

Another amendment “That the number of vice-presidents be increased to nine (9), plus the chairman of the sponsoring committee, who becomes a vice-president by virtue of his office, for the year his committee is sponsoring the National Gymanfa Ganu was approved’. The nine additional vice presidents were distributed as follows: Canada-2 for a 2 year term, US West-1 for a one year term, US Mid West-1 for 1 year term, US Central-2 for 1 year term, US East-2 for 1 year term, and 1 to be filled by a woman for 1 year term. The resulting election had the following results: Canada-**Professor John Hughes**, Montreal; and **Mrs. Gwen T. Williams**, Vancouver; US West-**William G. Evans**, Los Angeles; US Mid West-**Trevor Morgan Cartwright**, Denver; US Central- **Judge Fred M. Evans**, Madison and **Allen Thomas**, Ferndale, MI; US East- **John G. Roberts**, Cleveland and **Lynn C. Watkins-Rochester**; and the **Mrs. Mary King Thomas** of Marcellus, NY representing the women.

Article V OFFICERS of the 1958 new Constitution brought stability to the terms of office by setting the terms for two years and or until their successors have been elected and qualified. It specified that the President shall not succeed himself, however, he may be elected after a lapse of two years. It provided that if the President be a resident of the United States the Vice-President shall be a resident of Canada and vice versa. It stated that the Secretary and Treasurer may be one and the same person. [This provision was used immediately by designating **George Bundy** as the Secretary-Treasurer.] The Board of Trustees shall nominate and elect officers. The officers of THE ASSOCIATION shall automatically be members of the Board of Trustees with full voting rights.

The 1978 Constitution specified 3 year terms for the secretary and treasurer with second terms authorized and longer periods only if approved by the membership during the fifth year in office.

Of special interest is the fact that **Henry T. Jones** (1941-49 and 1953-55) and **John G. Roberts** (1957-60 and 1966-68) were the only presidents to have served 2 separate non-successive terms. Indications of the dedication of Secretaries **George Bundy**, **Jack Meadows**, and **Nelson L Llewellyn**; Treasurers **W. B. Jones**, **David Edwards** and **Catherine Dodd**; and Executive Directors **Nelson L. Llewellyn** and **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** is plainly evident in their long terms of service.

OFFICERS

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
1929-31	William E. Lewis Youngstown	Ellis Hughes Niagara Falls, NY	David J. Lewis Youngstown	W. B. Jones Pittsburgh
1931-32	James Attwood Youngstown	George D. Rees Chicago	Ellis Hughes	W. B. Jones
1932-33	George D. Rees	Edward E. Blythin Cleavland	Ellis Hughes	W. B. Jones
1933-34	Edward E Blythin	Dr. John H. Evans Chicago	John Roberts Cleveland	W. B. Jones
1934-35	Edward B. Williams Youngstown	Dr. John H. Evans	George Bundy Warren, OH	W. B. Jones
1935-37	Dr. John H. Evans	Edward B. Williams	George Bundy	W. B. Jones
1937-38	George E. Hopkins Canton, OH Died in Office 1 Mar. 1939	Caradoc Ellis	George Bundy	W. B. Jones
1938-41	Caradoc Ellis Johnstown, PA	Dai H. Lewis Buffalo	George Bundy Gwen T. Williams, Asst.	W. B. Jones
1941-49	Henry T. Jones New Castle	David R. Thomas Ottawa	George Bundy	W. B. Jones Died in Office Aug. 31, 1945
GEORGE BUNDY BECAME SEC/TREAS				
1949-53	Allen Thomas Detroit	Rev. J. Humphreys Jones Ottawa		George Bundy
1953-55	Henry T. Jones	Prof. John Hughes Montreal		George Bundy
1955-57	Dr. M. D. Thomas Salt Lake City	Prof. John Hughes		George Bundy
1957-60	John G. Roberts	Prof. John Hughes		George Bundy
In 1959 Eluned Thomas was elected Recording Secretary.				
1960-62	Douglas C. Jones Toronto	Col. H. L. Roberts	George Bundy	Menna Williams App. Treas. Jan 1961

At the 1957 meeting, Proviso Officers were appointed to take over in case there a vacancy occurred. Jack Meadows-Youngstown, Gwen T. Williams-Buffalo and Mary E. Samuel-Martins Ferry, OH were designated Assistant Secretaries. Menna Williams-Detroit who was designated Asst. Secretary was appointed Treasurer by the National Executive Board in 1961. Assistant Secretaries Jack Meadows and Gwen T. Williams were re-elected in 1961 and Gwen T. Williams was designated to take care of membership and the mailing list. At the same time, Mary E. Samuel was designated to be Asst. Treasurer.

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURY
1962-64	Col.H.L Roberts Pelham Manor, NY	Mrs. T. Lloyd Roberts	George Bundy	Menna Williams

Eluned Thomas was elected Recording Secretary

1964-66	Mrs. T. Lloyd Roberts Vancouver, BC	John G. Roberts Cleveland	George Bundy	Menna Williams Died in Office October 1966
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In 1964, assistants were continued with elections of Mary E. Samuel-Asst. Treasurer, Gwen T. Williams-Asst. Secretary for Membership and Mailing List and P. Emlyn Morgan-Asst. Secretary for Hymnal and Phonetic publications. Eluned Thomas was re-elected Recording Secretary.

1966-68	John G. Roberts	Lewis Edwards	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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In 1966, the duties of Gwen T. Williams were confined to membership with the mailing list handled elsewhere. The death of P. Emlyn Morgan, whose health forced him to give up duties with the hymnal and phonetic publications, was reported. David M. Edwards was Treasurer following the death of Menna Williams. In 1967, Jack Meadows was elected Secretary replacing retiring George Bundy who continued to handle hymnals and phonetics.

1968-70	Lewis Edwards Niagara Falls, ON	George K. Richards	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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1968 saw the re-election Recording Secretary Eluned Thomas, Gwen T. Williams Membership Chairman and Mary E. Samuel Asst. Treasurer. Mrs. Gwen T. Williams resigned her position as Membership Chairman during a 1969 Board meeting and those duties were merged with those of the Secretary.

1970-72	Emlyn Lloyd Detroit	Owen C. Roberts	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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Catherine Dodd was elected Recording Secretary at a 1970 Board meeting and it was decided that an Assistant Treasurer was no longer needed.

1972-74	Owen C. Roberts Montrea	Gwynn Parri	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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1974-76	Gwynn Parri Milwaukee	Eluned Thomas	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURY
1976-78	Eluned Thomas Toronto	Dr. David L Mandry	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards

In 1976, Alice Thomas Deisroth was elected Recording Secretary

1978-80	Dr. David L. Mandry Ravenswood, WV	Rev. J. H. Jones	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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Alice Thomas Deisroth was re-elected Recording Secretary, Nelson L. Llewellyn was elected Asst. Secretary and Catherine Dodd was elected Asst. Treasurer all at a 1978 Board meeting. Beginning in 1978, Nominating Committee chair and members were elected by the Board.

Alice Thomas Deisroth asked to be relieved of her Recording Secretary duties for personal reasons and Dwywen Griffiths was elected Recording Secretary in 1979.

1980-82	Rev.J. Humphreys Jones Toronto	N. Williams	Jack Meadows	David M. Edwards
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Elma Jones was elected Recording Secretary at 1980 Board meeting. At the same meeting Nelson L. Llewellyn and Catherine Dodd were re-elected Asst. Secretary and Asst. Treasurer respectively. Paul E. Stephens was re-elected Chairman of the Endowment Fund.

1982-84	Norman Williams Utica	Gwenfyl Jones	Jack Meadows Nelson L. Llewellyn	David M. Edwards Catherine Dodd
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Emmaline Davies was elected Recording Secretary at a 1982 Board meeting

Following the announced retirement of Jack Meadows at a 1983 Board meeting, Nelson L. Llewellyn was elected Secretary. There appeared to be some confusion in the minutes regarding the unexpired office to which Catherine Dodd was elected, either Asst. Treasurer or Treasurer. The 1983 Program lists Catherine as Treasurer (Acting). The 1984 Program and letterheads used before the 1984 National in Portland, OR listed Catherine as Treasurer. Apparently, it was meant to be the unexpired term of David M. Edwards who died suddenly on April 23, 1983 after serving 17 years as Treasurer.

Jack Meadows, Executive Secretary for 16 years, died on August 7, 1984.

1984-86	Gwenfyl Jones Vancouver BC	David Thomas	Nelson L. Llewellyn	Catherine Dodd
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Emmaline Davies was re-elected Recording Secretary and Nancy Miller was elected Chairman of the Endowment/Scholarship Committee.

1986-88	David Thomas Edina, MN	Paul E. Stevens	Nelson L Llewellyn	Catherine Dodd
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At a Board meeting in 1987, Nelson Llewellyn and Catherine Dodd were re-elected to their offices.

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURY
1988-90	Paul E. Stevens Poland, OH	Dr. Don Mills	Nelson L. Llewellyn	Catherine Dodd

Emmaline Davies and Nancy Miller were re-elected to their positions at a 1988 Board meeting.

1990-92	Dr. Don Mills Kanata, ON	Dr. Ellis J. Jones	Nelson L. Llewellyn	Catherine Dodd
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Nelson L.Llewellyn, Catherine Dodd and Emmaline Davies were all re-elected to their positions.

1992-94	Dr. Ellis J. Jones St. Peter, MN	Dr. Wm. John Lewis	Nelson L. Llewellyn	Catherine Dodd
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At a 1993 Board meeting, Nelson L. Llewellyn and Catherine Dodd were re-elected to their positions. Emmaline Davies resigned as Recording Secretary because of health problems. Alice Thomas Deisroth was Acting Recording Secretary at the 1993 meetings and was elected Recording Secretary.

In 1994, after many years of service starting in 1970 when she was elected Asst. Secretary, Catherine Dodd retired. Catherine also served as Asst. Treasurer beginning in 1978 becoming Acting Treasurer in 1983 and Treasurer the following year.

1994-96	Dr. Wm. John Lewis Kettering	Rev. Dr. R.C. Davies	Nelson L. Llewellyn	Nancy Miller
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In 1994, Nelson L. Llewellyn became the first Executive Director of the WNGGA. Lavina Williams Proverbs was elected Secretary with the primary duties as recording secretary. Dr. Phillips G. Davies became Chairman of the Scholarship/Endowment Fund.

1996-98	Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies Scarborough, Ont	Col. A. J. Reese, Jr.	Lavina Proverbs	Nelson L. Llewellyn
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1998-00	Col. A. J. Reese, Jr Lehighton, PA	Dr. Alan Upshall	Lynn Owens- Whalen	David Williams
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In 1998, Dr. Ellis J. Jones became the second Executive Director. Paul Stevens became the Chairman/Treasurer of the Endowment Fund and Myfanwy Davies Chairman of the Scholarship/Grants Committee.

2000-02	Dr. Alan Upshall Kenmore, WA	Lynn Owens-Whalen	Joan Owen Mandry	Huw S. Williams
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2002-04	Lynn Owens-Whalen Richmond, B.C.	Rev. Richard P.Baskwill	Myfanwy Davies	Huw S. Williams
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Dr. Ellis J. Jones retired as Executive Director, Sept 2003.

Dr. John Ellis became Executive Director effective Sept 2003.

**OTHER VICE PRESIDENTS
1939-1958**

1939

David R. Thomas-Ottawa
Lot H. Cooke
Allen Thomas-Detroit

1945

David R. Thomas
E. W. Roberts
Ernest Harris-Akron

1948

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones
Allen Thomas
John James, Salt Lake City

1940

David R. Thomas
Allen Thomas, Ferndale, MI
Henry T. Jones, New Castle

1946

David R. Thomas
Allen Thomas
Ernest Harris

1941-49

E. W. Roberts, Chicago
Herbert L. Morris, Utica

1947

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones, Toronto
Mrs. John McCallister, Columbus
Allen Thomas

1949

Dr. M. D. Thomas, Salt Lake City
Mrs. David F. Evans, Canton

1949-1953

Members of Executive Committee
Wm. E. Lewis, Youngstown
Henry T. Jones
Mrs. Arthur G. Hodgson, Lakewood, OH

1950

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones
Dr. M. D. Thomas
John R. Jones, Milwaukee

1952

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones
Dr. D. M. Thomas
Mrs. Gwen T. Williams, Buffalo
Lynn C. Watkins, Rochester

1951

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones
Dr. M. D. Thomas
E. I. Evans, Columbus

1953

Dr. D. M. Thomas
Mrs. R. H. Wassen, Canton
Thomas Rees, Philadelphia

1954

Prof. John Hughes
Dr. M. D. Thomas
Mrs. R. H. Wassen
George C. Lloyd, Salt Lake City

1955

Mrs. Angharad T. Lloyd Roberts
Trevor M. Cartwright, Denver
Judge Fred M. Evans, LA
William G. Evans, LA
Mrs. David L. Jones, Cleveland
John G. Roberts, Cleveland
Allen Thomas
Llewellyn (Lynn?) Watkins

1956

Prof. John Hughes
Mrs. A. T. Lloyd Roberts
Mrs. Sarah Ann Davies, DC
Ben L. Jenkins, Wilkes-Barre
Dr. John Parry Jones, LA
Mrs. Thomas H. Newey, Niles
Mrs. Harold Staples, SLC
Mrs. Mary K. Thomas, Marcellus, NY
Allen Thomas
Lynn Watkins
Dr. Hugh Owen Williams, Lake Crystal FL

1957

Mrs. A. T. Lloyd Roberts
Mrs. Estelle Roberts, Schuman,
Oak Park, IL
Mrs. Gwen T. Williams

Ben Haddock, San Diego
Mrs. Harold E. Staples
Mrs. Sarah Ann Davies
John Pritchard, Racine

Ben L. Jenkins
John S. Thomas
Mrs. Thomas H. Newey
M. Williams, Vancouver

1958

Prof. John Hughes

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Article VII of the 1958 Constitution stated that NATIONAL HONORARY OFFICERS may be designated by the Board of Trustees. Discussion of Honorary Officers at a 1964 Board of Trustees' meeting led to a passed motion that the president appoint a committee to consider National Honorary Officers and submit names to the Board. **Col. H. Llewellyn Roberts** headed that committee and at a 1965 Board of Trustees' meeting in Pittsburgh made its first approved nomination that **Judge David G. Jenkins**, Youngstown, and John **Hughson Jones**, New York City be designated Honorary Presidents to serve for 1965-66. Subsequent designations included:

1966-67 Henry T. Jones and George Bundy.

1968-69 Dr. John Hughes and Dr. M. D. Thomas

1970-Col E. G. Thomas

1971-Benjamin H. Haddock

1974-75 William G. Griffiths

1978-79 William G. Griffiths

1980-81 Glyndwr Abraham

1997-98 John O. Morgans

EX-OFFICIO VICE PRESIDENTS

Article VI EX OFFICIO OFFICERS of the 1958 Constitution stated that the President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America shall be an ex officio Vice President [of the WNGGA] during her term of office. The President of the Sponsoring Organization of the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu and the President of any Regional Gymanfa Ganu shall be ex officio Vice Presidents during their respective terms of office.

The Women's Welsh Clubs of America have operated The Welsh Home at Rocky River, OH since 1922. This endowment offers nursing home; assisted living and respite care facilities for 42 residents. The Women's Welsh Clubs of America have been among the strongest supporters of the WNGGA and the annual Nationals.

Mrs. David I. Jones, Cleveland, was the first President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America to be listed in a Program (1956) as an ex officio vice president based on her office. She was followed by **Mrs. Thomas E. Newey** (1957-58) and **Mrs. Sarah Ann Davies** (1959).

1960-Mrs. L. S. Hutton	1982-Mrs. Dorothy Feeley
1962-Mrs. Calvin Roan	1985-Mrs. Bernice D. Van Orman
1964-Mrs. William Pritchard,	1986-Mrs. Phyllis Parry Keutgen
1966-Mrs. Ernest John	1988-Ms. Catherine Dodd
1968-Mrs. J. Emrys Williams	1990-Mrs. Eula Francis
1970-Mrs. Frank Hitchings	1991-Mrs. Dorothy B. Guerry
1972-Mrs. Richard Crossen	1993 -Mrs. Catherine Lloyd
1974-Mrs. Chester Jones	1996-Mrs. Gwyneth Crysler
1976-Mrs. Walter Wilde	1997-Mrs. Ann Jenkins
1978 Mrs. Marion Flinchum	1999-Ms. Margery Freed
1980-Mrs. Alice Thomas Deisroth	2002-Ms. Nanette E. Wilde
	2003-Mrs. Gwyneth Crysler

Voting privileges at WNGGA board meetings were granted the President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America in 1978. These privileges were withdrawn in the amended 1994 Constitution since it was the view of many that voting privileges should only be exercised by those elected by the membership.

At the 1979 Annual General Meeting, it was reported that there were 22 Women's Welsh Clubs in the United States with 1,000 members and a \$2,000,000 Endowment. As of late 2003, there were a reported eight (8) remaining clubs with six (6) located in Ohio, one (1) in New York City and one (1) in Chicago.

The first president or chairman of the sponsoring committee designated an ex officio vice president of the WNGGA was **Miss Florence E. Williams** of the 1961 Chicago sponsoring committee.

The first President of the National Welsh-American Foundation designated ex officio vice president of the WNGGA was **Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.** in 1989 followed by:

1991-1992-William F. Griffiths	1997-Thomas W. Gable
1992-1994-Olwen Joyce Anderson	1998-2000-Dr. Wm. John Lewis
1994-1996-Jack A. Pritchard	2000-2002-Russell Williams
1996-1997-James A. Martin, III, Esq.	2002-2004-Olwen Joyce Anderson

The first President of Undeb Cymru a'r Byd (Wales International) designated ex officio Vice President of WNGGA was **Elinor Bennett** in 2000.

PRESIDENTS

WELSH ASSOCIATED YOUTH (WAY)

Welsh Associated Youth (WAY) was founded by **Gwynn Parri** during the 1970 National in Milwaukee. From the beginning, the purpose of WAY was to provide opportunities for young Welsh descendants to participate in Welsh oriented activities of interest to youths during the annual National Gymanfaoedd. **Mrs. Mary Griswold** was introduced in 1970 as the Director of WAY. **David J. Stephens**, of Oakville, ON, was listed in the 1971 Program as the first President of WAY in 1971 followed by:

1972-Daniel Rees, San Diego	1983-84-Mair Roberts
1974-Mrs. Jane Sharpe-Vice President	1985-86 Meirwyn Walters
1976-Roderic Owen	1987-88 Megan Lloyd
1977-79 Cynthia Jones	1989-90 Brandi Sutton
1980-Penny Brown	1991-96 John Lloyd
1981- Gwenfair Walters	1997- Carolyn Kearney

The first President of WAY designated ex officio vice president of the WNGGA was Acting President **John Lloyd** in 1995,

APPENDIX C

TRUSTEES OF THE NATIONAL GYMNAFA GANU ASSOCIATION

AND

THE WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION

Before the 1958 Constitution, the National Gymanfa Ganu Association was governed by the officers. The 1958 Constitution authorized a Board of Trustees consisting of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and 17 Trustees. Trustees were distributed with nine in Eastern United States, three in Western United States and five in Canada. A search of the records disclosed no rational for this distribution. The term of office was three years with seven trustees to be elected in 1959, five in 1960, and five in 1961 with the same ratios of elections thereafter. The By-Laws detailed the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees A 1999 amendment increased the trustees authorized for United States West to 6 bringing the total number of trustees to 20.

TRUSTEES

Trustees are listed by area (US East, US West and Canada), in alphabetical order and with years indicated being the year of election.

Asterisks indicate service as *President, **Vice President, *** Secretary, ****Treasurer, *****Recording Secretary, *****Executive Director, and +Editor of HWYL

The first Board of Trustees, elected at the Annual meeting of 1958 in Milwaukee and appearing in the 1959 Program, included **Col. E. G. Thomas, Ben Owen, and Dr. M. D. Thomas** from the West; **D. M. Edwards, Judge David G. Jenkins, Henry T. Jones, John R. Jones, Rev. John R. Owen, Horace B. Powell, Rev. John Charles Roberts, Allen Thomas, and Lynn C. Watkins** from the East; and **Stella Hughes, Rev. J. Humphreys Jones, Mrs T. Lloyd Roberts, Douglas C. Jones, and Eluned Thomas of Canada.**

The Constitution provided that the term of office for an elected Trustee shall be three years. Seven should have been elected in 1959, five in 1960 and five in 1961 and the same ratio of elections thereafter. The minutes of the Aug. 30, 1958 Annual Meeting stated that there were 18 nominations for the East, six for the West and 5 for Canada. The minutes prescribed that the five with most votes would serve for three years, the next five for two years and the next five for one year. [This was a good start with terms for 15 but no indication of terms for the other two.]

The presidents of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America, the Welsh American Youth and the National Welsh-American Foundation were designated ex officio members of the Board of Trustees. Their names are listed in Appendix B.

EASTERN UNITED STATES

OLWEN JOYCE ANDERSON-1997, 2000

**REV. RICHARD PRICE BASKWILL-2000

DON BRIGGS-1999

JANET BRIGGS-2001

TOM BROWNFIELD-1988, 1991

OBIE COBLEY-1971, 1974

GWYNETH CRYSLER-1984, 1987

REV. AERON DAVIES-1973

HYWEL DAVIES-2003

JANE DAVIES-1961 (UNEXPIRED TERM OF JACK MEADOWS RESIGNED TO BE ASSISTANT. SECRETARY)

MARTHA DAVIES-2000

****ALICE THOMAS DEISROTH-1993

****CATHERINE DODD-1981

****DAVID M. EDWARDS-1958, 1959, 1962, 1965, 1968

JOHN ELLIS-2002

FRANK FEELEY-1984, 1987

SALLY EVANS FUNDERBURK-2003

ELIZABETH GRIFFITHS-1975, 1978

WILLIAM G. GRIFFITHS-1976, 1979

EDITH HILL-1987, 1989

GERTRUDE HOWELLS-2001

RICHARD J.HUGHES-1962

REV. ROBERT HUGHES-2001

H. ISAAC-1975, 1978

JUDGE DAVID G. JENKINS-1958, 1961, 1964, 1967

JUDGE ELWYN V. JENKINS-1969, 1972

*HENRY T. JONES-1958, 1961, 1964, 1967. DIED WHILE TRUSTEE

JOHN R. JONES-1958, 1959, 1962. DIED WHILE TRUSTEE

DR. JOHN R. JONES- 1968, 1971

*REV. KENNETH A. JONES-1972, 1975

LEWIS JONES-1965, 1968 (UNEXPIRED TERM OF LATE COL. H. LLEWELLYN ROBERTS)

GLORIA COLLINS KONDRAT-1996, 1999

*DR. WM. JOHN LEWIS-1990

/***NELSON LLEWELLYN-1981

CATHERINE LLOYD-1996, 1999

*EMLYN LLOYD-1965

MEGAN SUE LLOYD-1990, 1993

REV. NEAL LLOYD-1978, 1981

*DR. DAVID MANDRY-1970, 1973,1982,1985

****JOAN OWEN MANDRY-1994, 1997,2002

MARIAN D. MATTHEWS-1991, 1994

***JACK MEADOWS-1960, 1964 (UNEXPIRED TERM OF LATE JOHN R. JONES), 1965, 1968

****NANCY MILLER-1983, 1986

MAIR MONKHOUSE-1968, 1972, 1975

BARBARA MORGAN-1994, 1997

EMLYN MORGAN-1961

MARY ELLEN MORGAN-1998

REV. JOHN R. OWEN-1958, 1983. DIED WHILE TRUSTEE

*GWYNN PARRI-1969 (UNEXPIRED TERM OF HENRY T. JONES), 1970

WALTER T. PERROTT-1960 (UNEXPIRED TERM OF LATE ALLEN THOMAS)

HORACE B. POWELL-1958, 1959

JACK PRITCHARD-1992, 1995

MRS. WILLIAM PRITCHARD-1977, 1980

*+COL. ALFRED J. REESE, JR.-1990,1993

IRIS REES1990, 1993

**GEORGE K. RICHARDS-1962, 1965,1968

HELEN RICHARDS-1964, 1967, 1976

*COL. H. LLEWELLYN ROBERTS-1966. DIED WHILE TRUSTEE

REV. JOHN C. ROBERTS-1958

*JOHN G. ROBERTS-1958, 1963, 1966,1974
ROBERT ROSER-2002
MARY E. SAMUEL-1970
LLOYD SAVAGE-1996
*PAUL E. STEVENS-1978. ELECTED WHEN CHAIRMAN, ENDOWMENT FUND.
*ALLEN THOMAS-1958, DIED WHILE TRUSTEE
DR. ISLYN THOMAS-1976, 1979, 1984, 1987
+PATRICIA POWELL VIETS-1990, 1991
REV. DR. GWYNN WALTERS-1985, 1988
MEIRWYN WALTERS-1989, 1992
CYRIL WATKINS-1977, 1980
LYNN (LLEWELLYN) C. WATKINS-1958, 1959
OLWEN WELK-1982, 1985
DANIEL WILLIAMS-1983, 1984, 1987
****DAVID A. WILLIAMS-1996
Dr. DAVID A. WILLIAMS-2003
****HUW SERIOL WILLIAMS-1999
J. C. WILLIAMS-1985, 1988
*NORMAN WILLIAMS-1972, 1978
MRS. ROBERT T. WILLIAMS-1959, 1962
RUSSELL WILLIAMS-1995, 1998
MORRIS WRENCH-1979, 1982
LEONARD WYNNE-1986

WESTERN UNITED STATES

MAE HOWELLS ANDERSON-1996

CONNIE HOLT CLAYPOOL-2002

DONNA DAVIES-1975, 1978, 1985, 1987

*****EMMALINE DAVIES-1979

DR. PHILLIPS G. DAVIES-1990, 1993

RICHARD DAVIES-1970, 1973

DAVID EVANS-1999, 2002

BEN HADDOCK-1963, 1966, 1975

DR. BERWYN JONES-1999, 2002

*/*****+DR. ELLIS J. JONES-1987, 1990

*****ELMA JONES-1978

BETTY KINSEY-1981

MYRA THOMAS LAWRENCE-1985, 1988, 1999, 2002

ADA MAE LEWIS-2003

GWEN LUCAS-1982

ANN MCFERRIN-2001

COL. JOHN NESBITT-1994, 1997

BEN OWEN-1058, 1960,

ORVID OWENS-1991

GERRI BAKER PARRY-1999 (ONE YEAR UNEXPIRED TERM OF ALAN UPSHALL),2000, 2003.

BETTY PIERCE-1981, 1984

WILLIAM PRITCHARD-1991

DANNY EVAN PROUD-1999

ADA DAVIES THOMAS-1969 (REPLACED COL. E. G. THOMAS)

ANN DAVIES THOMAS-1969, 1972 (REPLACED DR. M. D. THOMAS)

*DAVID THOMAS-1981, 1984,

COL. E.G. THOMAS-1958, 1960, 1963, 1966

*DR. M. D. THOMAS-1958, 1960, 1963, 1966

*Dr. ALAN UPSHALL-1994, 1997

CANADA

GLYNDWR ABRAHAMS-1977
BETTY CULLINGWORTH-2003
DAVID DAVIES-1967
IRVING DAVIES-1964
JOHN M. DAVIES-1962, 1965
****MYFANWY DAVIES-1993, 1996, 2001
*REV. DR. R. CERWYN DAVIES-1990, 1993
IWAN EDWARDS-1987, 1990
*LEWIS EDWARDS-1963, 1964, 1967, 1972, 1975, 1980, 1983
TOM EDWARDS-1981, 1992
THOMAS EDWARD FIELD-1984,1997, 2000
ELLIS GRIFFITHS-1989
NELLIE GRIFFITHS-1961
TALFRYN GRIFFITHS-1976
ALAN HUGHES-1986, 1987
**DR. JOHN HUGHES-1960, 1963, 1966
STELLA HUGHES-1958
*DOUGLAS C. JONES-1958, 1959
GERAINT JONES-1999, 2002
*GWENFYL JONES-1979, 1982
*REV. J. HUMPHREYS JONES-1958, 1974, 1977,
KEITH DAVIES JONES-2002
JOHN MARTIN-1968, 1971
*DR.DON MILLS-1986, 1988
IAN MORRIS-1995
ROY MORRIS-1989, 1991, 2003.
PHYLLIS MORGAN OWENS-1998
SHEILA DAY PEPPER-1998, 2001
TERRENCE PEARCE-1985 DIED WHILE TRUSTEE

SAM PRICE-1959

WYNNE PRICE-1969, 1972

HOWELL PRITCHARD-1996, 1999

D.H. REES-1969

*MRS. ANGHARAD (T. LLOYD) ROBERTS-1958, 1961

*OWEN ROBERTS-1962, 1965, 1968, 1975, 1978, 1983, 1986

HUW ROWE-1984

*/*****ELUNED THOMAS-1958, 1970, 1973, 1980, 1983

E. I. WATKINS-1978, 1981

*/*****LYNN OWENS-WHALEN-1992, 1995

REV. HEDD-WYN M. WILLIAMS-1985, 1986, 1989

JOHN M. WILLIAMS-1971, 1974

APPENDIX D

NATIONAL VENUES AND LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS

1929-2004

1929

1930

1931

1932

1933

1934

1935

1936	Atlantic City, NJ	Evan Prosser
1937	Johnstown, PA	Ewart L. Roberts
1938	Pittsburgh, PA	R. H. Davies
1939	Buffalo, NY	Lot H. Cooke
1940	Detroit, MI	Allen Thomas
1941	New Castle, PA	Henry T. Jones
1942	Utica, NY	Hobart L. Morris

The Gymanfa Ganu was suspended during the World War II years.

1946	Akron, OH	Ernest Harris
1947	Akron, OH	Ernest Harris
1948	Detroit, MI	Allen Thomas
1949	Salt Lake City, UT	John James & Dr. M. D. Thomas
1950	Canton, OH	Mrs. David F. Evans-Edward J. Hopkins
1951	Milwaukee, WI	John R. Jones
1952	Columbus, OH	E. I. Evans
1953	Rochester, NY	Lynn C. Watkins
1954	Philadelphia, PA	Thomas E. Rees
1955	Salt Lake City, UT	George C. Lloyd

1956	Cleveland, OH	John G. Roberts
1957	Washington, DC	Mrs. Sarah Ann Davies
1958	Milwaukee, WI	John Pritchard
1959	Toronto, ON	Douglas C. Jones
1960	San Francisco, CA	Dr. M. D. Thomas
1961	Chicago, IL	Mrs. Florence E. Williams
1962	Utica, NY	Richard Hughes
1963	Detroit, MI	Walter T. Perrott
1964	Philadelphia, PA	John Ellis Rosser
1965	Pittsburgh, PA	George K. Richards
1966	Los Angeles, CA	Dr. M. D. Thomas
1967	Toronto, ON	Ivor Davies
1968	Buffalo, NY	Mair Monkhouse
1969	Cleveland, OH	John G. Roberts
1970	Milwaukee, WI	Gwynn Parri
1971	Salt Lake City, UT	Dr. M. D. Thomas
1972	Chicago, IL	Mrs. Robert J. Williams
1973	Toronto, ON	W. F. Blanch
1974	Cleveland, OH	John G. Roberts
1975	New York, NY	Wilfred O. Greenway
1976	Philadelphia, PA	Elisabeth Griffith
1977	Ottawa, ON	Don Mills & Tal Griffiths
1978	Minneapolis, MN	David E. Thomas
1979	* Niagara Falls, NY	Gwyneth Crysler & Lewis Edwards
1980	Vancouver, BC	Gwenfyl E. Jones
1981	Utica, NY	Robert A. Jones
1982	Toronto, ON	Eluned Thomas
1983	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Jack A. Pritchard
1984	Portland, OR	****Emmaline Davies & Betty Pierce
1985	Montreal, PQ	Terrence Pearce

1986	Columbus, OH	Tom Brownfield
1987	St. Paul, MN	Mae Howells Anderson
1988	Baltimore, MD	Barbara A. Morgan
1989	Pittsburgh, PA	David R. Lewis & John C. Williams
1990	Victoria, BC	Yvonne Griffiths-Evans
1991	Cincinnati, OH	David Taliesin Richards & Dr. Wm. John Lewis
1992	Kansas City, MO	Jack A. Nesbitt & Ann McFerrin
1993	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Jack A. Pritchard & Beth Landmesser
1994	Bellevue, WA	Alan Upshall
1995	Harrisburg, PA	Glenn Grove & Pat St. Clair
1996	Utica, NY	Rev. Stephen L. Reese & Patricia C. Driver
1997	Milwaukee, WI	David T. Williams & Arline H. Barsamian
1998	Columbus, OH	Mary Ellen Morgan & Marietta Riggs Schumann
1999	Minneapolis, MN	Dr. Ellis J. Jones & Mary Morris Mergenthal
2000	Ottawa, ON	Ian Morris
2001	San Jose, CA	Howard Thomas
2002	Harrisburg, PA	Glenn Grove & Cheryl Mitchell
2003	**Richmond/Vancouver, BC	Alan Upshall & Lynn Owens-Whalen
2004	***Buffalo, NY	Myfanwy Davies

*50th Anniversary Jubilee Gymanfa Ganu

**1st Annual North American Festival of Wales

***75th Anniversary Nelson L. Llewellyn Gymanfa Ganu

****The first all lady team to chair a National venue committee

APPENDIX E

NATIONAL VENUES AND GYMANFA GANU CONDUCTORS

1929-2003

1929	Niagara Falls, NY	1 st	Prof. Isaac Prosser, Youngstown Prof. Evan Harris, Buffalo
1930	Niagara Falls	2 nd	Dilys Hughes, Buffalo
1931	Niagara Falls	3 rd	Prof. Evan Harris, Buffalo
1932	Niagara Falls,	4th	Prof. John T. Roberts, Utica
1933	Chicago	5th	Prof. David Jenkins, Scranton
1934	Cleveland	6th	Dr. T. Hopkins Evans, Cleveland
1935	Youngstown	7th	Dr. Joseph Lloyd, Youngstown The Rev. Rees Williams, New Castle, PA
1936	Atlantic City	8th	W. B. Jones, Pittsburgh The Hon. Stanley Davis, Scranton
1937	Johnstown	9th	Prof. Samuel J. Evans, Utica
1938	Pittsburgh	10th	Dr. D. West Richard, Youngstown
1939	Buffalo	11th	The Rev George , Rochester Middleton. , NY
1940	Detroit	12th	Evan R. Edwards, Rome, NY
1941	New Castle	13th	Dr. Griffith J. Jones, Cleveland
1942	Utica	14th	Lewis Thomas, Chicago

The Gymanfa Ganu was suspended during World War II years.

1946	Akron	15 th	Prof. William A. Hughes, Cleveland
1947	Akron	16th	William R. Hughes, Scranton
1948	Detroit	17th	Prof, John T. Roberts, Utica
1949	Salt Lake City	18th	Prof. William A. Hughes
1950	Canton, OH	19th	T. Herbert Davies, Cleveland
1951	Milwaukee	20th	David J. Pritchard, Seattle
1952	Columbus	21st	Prof. Hywel C. Rowland, Grand Forks, ND

			Ann Davies Thomas, Salt Lake City
1953	Rochester	22 nd	Meredydd Evans, Princeton, NJ E. J. Hughes, Caernarfon
1954	Philadelphia	23 rd	E. J. Hughes
1955	Salt Lake City	24 th	Ann Davies Thomas
1956	Cleveland	25 th	Prof. William A. Hughes
1957	Washington, DC	26 th	Prof. William A. Hughes
1958	Milwaukee	27 th	Prof. William A. Hughes
1959	Toronto	28 th	Ann Davies Thomas
1960	San Francisco	29 th	Albert T. Davies, Detroit
1961	Chicago	30 th	Mansel Thomas, Cardiff
1962	Utica	31 st	Prof. William A. Hughes
1963	Detroit	32 nd	Albert T. Davies
1964	Philadelphia	33 rd	Dr. Leslie Wynn-Evans, South Wales
1965	Pittsburgh	34 th	Morris Wrench, Youngstown
1966	Los Angeles	35 th	Dr. Terry James, Cardiff
1967	Toronto	36 th	Alun John, Pontycymmer, Wales
1968	Buffalo	37 th	Alun John, Pontycymmer
1969	Cardiff, Wales		Dr. Terry James, Cardiff
	Cleveland	38 th	Morris Wrench
1970	Milwaukee	39 th	Alun John, Pontycymmer
1971	Salt Lake City	40 th	Dr. Llewellyn Roberts, Los Angeles
1972	Chicago	41 st	Frances Williams, New York City
1973	Toronto	42 nd	Helen Evans, Cardiff
1974	Swansea		Alun John
	Cleveland	43 rd	Ann Davies Thomas
1975	New York City	44 th	Dr. Terry James, London
1976	Philadelphia	45 th	Lyn Harry, Hamilton, ON
1977	Ottawa	46 th	Noel Gwyn Davies, Gorseinon, Wales
1978	Minneapolis	47 th	Lyn Harry, Hamilton

1979	*Niagara Falls, NY	48th	Alun John
1980	Vancouver, BC	49th	D. Eifion Thomas, Llanelli
1981	Utica	50th	Iwan Edwards, Lachine, PQ
1982	Toronto	51 st	Noel John, Llandeilo
1983	Wilkes-Barre	52 nd	AlunGuy, Cardiff
1984	Portland, OR	53 rd	Noel John, Llandeilo
1985	Montreal	54th	Iwan Edwards
1986	Columbus	55th	Colin Jones, Rhosllanerchrugog John Tudor Davies, Rhosllanerchrugog
1987	St. Paul	56th	Iwan Edwards
1988	Baltimore	57 th	Dr. Carlton Jones Lake, Philadelphia
1989	Pittsburgh	58th	T. Gwynne Jones, Llanfairfechan
1990	Victoria, BC	59th	D. Eifion Thomas
1991	Cincinnati	60th	Delwyn Hopkins Evans, Pontrhydygroes
1992	Kansas City	61 st	Hywel Thomas, Fort Worth
1993	Wilkes-Barre	62 nd	Alun Guy
1994	Bellevue, WA	63 rd	Mary Morris Mergenthal, St. Paul D. Eifion Thomas
1995	Harrisburg	64th	Glynne Jones, Merthyr Tydfil
1996	Utica	65th	Iwan Edwards
1997	Milwaukee	66th	Geraint Wilkes, Milwaukee
1998	Columbus	67th	Lloyd Savage, Chillicothe, OH W. Tudor Jones, Rhosllanerchrugog
1999	Minneapolis	68th	Meirwyn Walters, Hamilton, MA
2000	Ottawa	69th	Roy Morris, Ottawa
2001	San Jose	70th	Rhiannon Evans Acree, Los Angeles D. Eifion Thomas
2002	Harrisburg	71 st	Donald Boothman, MA Rev. Gareth Thomas, Swansea
2003	Richmond, BC	72 nd	Haydn James, London

2004 **Buffalo 73rd Meirwyn Walters

* 50th Anniversary Jubilee Gymanfa Ganu

75th Anniversary Gymanfa Ganu

APPENDIX F

PERSONALITIES- SELECTED INDIVIDUALS WHO DISPLAYED THE GYMNAFA GANU SPIRIT

This appendix recognizes those individuals whose services to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, and to the Welsh Community this side of the Atlantic, personify the cultural ideals they or their ancestors brought from their homeland.

ACCOMPANISTS

E. Gwyndaf Roberts

Gwyndaf came from a musical family. His father, Robert D. Roberts, of Penrhyndeudraeth North Wales, was a quarryman who conducted a prize-winning mixed choir in his spare time. Gwyndaf began his musical career in his native Penrhyndeudraeth.

Coming to Utica, at the age of eighteen with his family, he continued piano studies with Miss Margaret Griffith and studied organ with noted organists John L. Baldwin, Frederick Monks and Alistair Cassels-Brown. Gwyndaf accompanied many cymanfaoedd ganu in Central New York as well as the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu. He was organist and choir director at Moriah Presbyterian Church in Utica, a charter member of Y Côr Dewi Sant, and served several terms on the executive committee of the St. David's Society of Utica. He was on the staff of the Savings Bank of Utica.

Gwyndaf served as organist at the Nationals in Ottawa (1977), Utica (1981), Wilkes-Barre (1983), Montreal (1985), St. Paul (1987), Baltimore (1988), Pittsburgh (1989), and Wilkes-Barre 1993, and his ninth National was Utica (1996).

Estelle Roberts Schubert

Estelle Roberts Schubert of Oak Park, IL, is a graduate of the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. She served as pianist/organist at ten Nationals: sessions pianist Canton (1950), sessions pianist Milwaukee (1951), pianist church service and sessions organist Rochester (1953), sessions pianist Philadelphia (1954), organist Church Service Milwaukee (1958), sessions organist Toronto (1959), sessions organist Chicago (1961), Noson Lawen and banquet accompanist Salt Lake City (1971), concert accompanist Chicago (1972) and sessions pianist Milwaukee (1997). She is the composer of the hymn tune *Llysfaen (Walk in Light)* and two sacred anthems *Behold I Stand at the Door* and *Joy to the World*.

CONDUCTORS

Iwan Edwards

Iwan Edwards of Lachine, PQ was born and educated (University of Wales-Bachelor of Music) in Wales. His experience there included orchestral and choral work and adjudicating and conducting Cymanfaoedd Canu. He came to Canada in 1965 to accept a two-year appointment as Music Director of Lachine High School that ended in 1979.

Internationally recognized Iwan Edwards' musical achievements cover a wide range of activities. He directed the St. Lawrence mixed choir, L'Orchestre de Chambre Pro Arte de Montreal and was Chorus Master of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra Chorus. As music director of the F.A.C.E. (Fine Arts Core Education) Senior Treble Choir, he prepared it for a tour of Wales and a performance at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod. The F.A.C.E. choir won the children's category of the CBC's national choral competition for amateur choirs. The St. Lawrence Choir, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra Chorus and the F.A.C.E. Senior Treble Choir performed Benjamin Britten's *Requiem*, Faure's *Requiem* and Kodaly's *Psalmus Hungaricus* at Carnegie Hall with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra under direction of Charles Dutoit.

The Program for the Utica 1996 National indicated that, in addition to other continued responsibilities, Iwan was currently Chairman of the Performance Department of McGill University and conductor of the McGill University chorus.

In recognition of his remarkable achievements in music, the Government of Canada honored Edwards with the prestigious *Order of Canada*

He conducted at four Nationals (Utica 1981, Montreal 1985, St. Paul 1987 and Utica 1996).

William Albert Hughes

William Albert Hughes first conducted a National Gymanfa Ganu at the 1946 Victory National in Akron. He went on to conduct five additional Nationals (Salt Lake City 1949, Cleveland 1956, Washington 1957, Milwaukee 1958 and Utica 1962 for a record six Nationals. See the report on the 1949 National for his biography.

Alun John

Alun John, B. Sc., Dip.Ed., A.R.C.M. was born in Pontycymmer, South Wales. He conducted at a total of four Nationals (Toronto 1967, Buffalo 1968, Milwaukee 1970 and Niagara Falls, NY 1979) and the 1974 gymanfa in Swansea. He graduated the University College of Wales at Cardiff, one of the few conductors with a degree in science, and later studied piano and conducting at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. He adjudicated at many Eisteddfodau and conducted the BBC Welsh Orchestra and Welsh Singers on many occasions. He founded and conducted the Pentwyn Singers, a Glamorgan youth choir, and the Ardwyn Singers, an adult choir formed for television and radio broadcasts. He conducted numerous Cymanfaoedd Canu in Wales and London broadcast over BBC. He conducted the 165-voice choir of the Tabernacle Welsh Congregational Church in Morryston, the largest non-conformist church in Wales. He conducted the Gymanfa Ganu there when His Royal Highness Prince Charles of Wales was there during his investiture year 1969

Mari Morgan

Conductor Mari Morgan was born and raised in Llanelli, South Wales. She graduated with honors, in 1987, from the University of Wales College, Cardiff and Trinity College of Music in London. She is the recipient of the Sir Geraint Evans Prize for Singing (UCC) and a scholarship from the St. David's Society of the State of New York. A mezzo-soprano, she has pursued a career in recitals across North America, the United Kingdom and France. She moved to the United States and has been awarded permanent residency on the basis of her professional accomplishments as an illustrator and interpreter of Welsh music.

The founder and first conductor of the North American Welsh Choir, she traveled tens of thousands of miles since February 1998 to prepare this unique choir for its premiere performance.

Ann Davies Thomas and Dr. Moyer D. Thomas

Ann Davies Thomas, the wife of Dr. Moyer D. Thomas, of Salt Lake City was the personification of the "Spirit of the Gymanfa Ganu." Her enthusiasm and vitality literally permeated every National she attended and was even a presence at those she did not.

Miss Ann Davies, of Emporia, KS, first appeared in a Program as the organist for the 1949 church service and organ accompanist for the evening session of the Gymanfa Ganu in Salt Lake City.

Her next appearance was as conductor for the evening session at the 1952 National in Columbus. The Program for Columbus 1986 offered a look back at the 1952 National sponsored by the four year old Columbus Welsh Society. A description of the conducting of Ann Davies Thomas, that long and faithful servant of the National Gymanfa Ganu, seems to bring out the essence of a National Gymanfa Ganu.

"In the evening, Ann Davies Thomas held the audience under her spell and the movements of her hands played upon the audience as though it were a great organ-diminishing the sound to almost a whisper and increasing at times the crescendo into a grand magnavox of chords wherein the spirits of the songsters rose to lofty heights of spiritual expression." Her enthusiasm carried over following the 1952 evening session when the crowd began an exodus to the State Capitol where 3,000 singers gathered and sang into the night."

Ann Davies Thomas' performance as conductor at four Nationals is not a record, but her appearances as a leading participant at 13 Nationals is a record.

1949-Salt Lake City, organist at church service and organ accompanist at evening session.

1952-Columbus, conductor evening session.

1955-Salt Lake City, organist at church service and conductor at sessions.

1956-Cleveland, director of hymn singing at church service.

1959-Toronto, conductor at sessions

1960-Cleveland, organist at sessions.

1966-Los Angeles, organist at sessions.

1970-Milwaukee, organist at sessions

1972-Chicago, organist at church service

1974-Cleveland, conductor at sessions

1984-Portland, OR, organist at the Bryn Sion Church Centennial held during the National.

1986-Columbus, lead singing of Star Spangled Banner at the banquet and informal singing in the Ohio Center Atrium

She was also general secretary of the 1971 Salt Lake City venue committee and conductor at the 1976 Seventh Western Regional in San Francisco.

She served on the WNGGA Board of Trustees 1969-70 and replaced her husband there in 1972.

A Special Service Commendation in the 1974 Program for Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas read:

“The Welsh Society of Cleveland and the Women’s Welsh Clubs of Cleveland express their deep affection we have for you and to publicly recognize the many contributions made by you in the Gymanfa Ganu and its religious value.

For the energy, the faith, devotion and directorship which you have so freely given through the years, we are indeed grateful and happy to say “Thank you, Ann Davies Thomas.

We look forward to many more years of association with you and your sincere interest in promoting and keeping alive our Welsh Heritage as symbolized by the Gymanfa Ganu.

We wish both you and your good husband, Dr. M. D. Thomas, a Rhodes Scholar and a Past President (WNGGA), good health and happiness, and may you both enjoy an abundance of all the good things of life for many years to come. “

The 1991 Program contained the following memorial:

We Remember...

Ann Davies Thomas who died in Salt Lake City this past Christmas Eve. Among her many musical accomplishments, as director of a Welsh-American Good Will Choir, was a command performance to Her Majesty the Queen. But she will be most fondly remembered as Director of three National Gymanfaoedd: Columbus '52, Salt Lake City '55 and Cleveland '74. She was Honorary Director of the 50th Anniversary Gymanfa at Niagara Falls in 1979. Ann was Editor of the Gymanfa Hymnals now in use. Her enthusiasm for Welsh hymnsinging was evident still at Victoria '90. Ann personified the essence of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu and will be greatly missed.

If Ann Davies Thomas personified the spirit of the Gymanfa Ganu, her husband Dr. Moyer D. Thomas was the “organization man.” He holds the record for initiative, organization, and persistence being the chairman of the local venue committee for the 1949-Salt Lake City, 1960-San Francisco, 1966-Los Angeles and 1971 Salt Lake City National Gymanfaoedd. He was elected to the WNGGA Board of Trustees for terms beginning in 1958, 1960, 1963, and 1966. He was one of three vice presidents in 1952 and served as President of the WNGGA for 1955-57.

D. Eifion Thomas

Musical Director D. Eifion Thomas of Côr Meibion Llanelli has been connected with the choir for nearly 30 years, initially as accompanist, but for the majority of the time as Director. He is also a soloist who performs with the choir. He has led the choir to many outstanding successes, both in competition and on stage. He trained in education and music at Trinity College, Carmarthen and the Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff. Currently, he is headmaster of the Halfway Primary School in Llanelli. As a soloist, Eifion has sung on stage, radio and television. He has been guest with many of the Welsh male voice choirs. He has released two recordings in Sain label- *Hoff Emytau* in 1986 and *Eifion* in 1989.

In addition to his choir duties, he conducted the Gymanfa Ganu at four Nationals: Vancouver (1980), Victoria (1990), Bellevue (1994) and San Jose (2001).

Meirwyn Ioan Walters

Meirwyn Ioan Walters holds five distinctions within the WNGGA. He and his father, Rev. Dr. Gwyn Walters formed the first father-son combination on the Board of Trustees (Gwyn 1985-91 and Meirwyn 1989-95). In a unique combination, Meirwyn was also the first WAY President to serve on the Board of Trustees and the first to conduct a National Gymanfa Ganu Minneapolis (1999). He preached the sermon at the 1997 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu in Milwaukee. Attorney Meirwyn Walters has counseled the WNGGA on an informal basis. All of the above certainly qualifies Meirwyn Ioan Walters a distinguished member of the WNGGA.

Meirwyn is nationally known to the Welsh-American community as a conductor of cymanfaoedd. His energetic, passionate style of conducting finds its roots in the Welsh hymn itself, with its unique attention to melodic tunes, rich harmonies and profound lyrics. In Welsh tradition, Walters developed his musical talents under his parents' careful cultivation. He learned conducting from his father, the late Rev. Dr. Gwyn Walters, and his mother Mair impressed on him the distinctive marriage of word and tune found in Welsh hymns. As a young boy soprano, he sang the lead in the Minotti operetta, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, in a community production. He went on to formal musical training which included classical piano at Gordon College and music composition at Harvard University.

Meirwyn was eight years old when he attended his first National and, as a teenager, he was elected president of Welsh Associated Youth. He served two three-year terms as a trustee of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. As a Welsh speaker born in the United States, he has featured on BBC Wales radio and TV in interviews concerning the life of a Welsh-speaking American in the U.S.

Meirwyn Walters graduated from Harvard University with honors, studied theology and law at Gordon-Cornwell Theological Seminary and received Doctor of Laws from Boston College Law School. He is a trial attorney and assistant professor of law at Gordon College. He and his wife Nina make their home in Hamilton, MA.

(Extracted and slightly modified from the Program for the 68th National Gymanfa Ganu in Minneapolis (1999).

DEDICATIONS

There were three dedications of Nationals to individuals who filled the definition of Welshmen dedicated to their culture and heritage.

John James—Welshman Extraordinary-Salt Lake City (1955)

The morning after John James took a king's share of Wales with him into eternity, in 1954 at the age of 90, the *Salt Lake Tribune* began his obituary:

“John James, venerable leader of Utah's Welsh descendants, died of causes incident to age. . .” His frail body was old and worn, but John James died young—young because he **loved**, particularly people and Wales.

For generations, Welsh people will talk about this remarkable Welshman—the twinkle in his eyes and his sharp wit that always seemed on the tip of his tongue, and the lips that he liked to rub together eagerly when he talked about such names as David Lloyd George, Gymanfa Ganu, Carmarthenshire and Captain Dan Jones.

John James was born in Pembroke. . . on March 1, 1864, only a few days before Ulysses S. Grant was made commander-in-chief of the Union forces. . . at a time when Victoria in Britain was mothering a growing family and empire. . . His father, George James, rode with the famous “Six Hundred” in the Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854 in the Crimean War.

John James was educated in the common schools and college, before embarking for America in 1885. . . arriving in Salt Lake City in July of the same year [where] he soon became a court reporter for the **Deseret News**

Studying law in Michigan, . . . served as clerk of Salt Lake City's police court and public prosecutor. In 1900, he was elected Salt Lake county clerk, and ex-officio clerk of the district court of the Third Judicial District of Utah. He also served as clerk of the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Health. During 1914-18, he was insurance commissioner for the State of Utah, and for 18 years, he was district agent for Occidental Life Insurance Company of California. For nearly twenty years, Mr. James was British vice counsel in Salt Lake City.

John James excelled in many fields. But as a leader of the Welsh in America, he had no peer. For 35 years, he was secretary of Utah's Cambrian Association, and he served as president from 1927 until his death in 1954. . . . Mr. James' service with the Cambrians began in 1892, when he brought Dr. Joseph Parri. . . to Salt Lake City to adjudicate a great eisteddfod.

For decades, John James was the hub of all Welsh activity in Utah. . . . He was proud to point out that the famed Mormon Tabernacle Choir had its beginning in 1849 when a company of Welsh arrived as the first foreign speaking immigrants to Utah.

John James' bardic name was **Ieuan ap Iago**, meaning “John son of James”. . . [he] lived an abundant, full life—full of his native Wales and the good and noble for which it stands. (Extracted from the Program for the Salt Lake City National (1955)

Ann Davies Thomas

The following Dedication to Ann Davies Thomas (1902-1990), written by Jack Nesbitt, Chairperson, 1992 Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, appeared in the Program:

The idea of a Welsh National in Kansas City first came from our region's best known Welsh musician, Ann Davies Thomas. She proposed the idea during the 1989 Welsh National in Pittsburgh. Without Ann's strong encouragement, we might not have come forward with an offer to sponsor the 1992 Welsh National Gymnafa Ganu in Kansas City. Although she did not live to participate with us, we know that the spirit of Ann Davies Thomas is present at the 61st Welsh National.

Ann Davies was born in Abergynolwyn, North Wales, in 1902. In 1922, her family came to Emporia, Kansas, where there was a large Welsh settlement dating back to 1866. Ann enrolled in Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia where, upon graduation, she began a lengthy teaching career in music at her alma mater. She was a choral director, organist, pianist, composer, arranger, voice coach, and organizer of nationally known music festivals.

Ann left the faculty of Kansas State Teachers College and moved west when she married Dr. Moyer D. Thomas in 1951. She continued her musical career and returned frequently to direct or participate in Welsh musical activities in the region. By then, she had attained prominence throughout the United States, Canada, England, and her native Wales. She traveled with her choirs to Wales, England, and the European Continent. On one tour, her choir performed for the British Royal Family.

Honored with membership in *Gorsedd of Bards* for services in Welsh music and culture, her bardic name was "Gwernolwen of California". On three occasions she was honored by being chosen for the coveted position of Music Director of the Welsh National Gymnafa Ganu---1952 in Columbus, 1955 in Salt Lake City, and 1974 in Cleveland. Ann served as Editor of our present hymnal, *Welsh and English Anthems*, published in 1979. Ann was a fixture at the Welsh National right up through Victoria, BC in September 1990

David Edwin Morgan (August 9, 1907-March 18, 1987) Columbus 1998

The following excerpts are taken from the dedication in the 1998 Program.

Often called the "Professional Welshman" by local newspapers, Dave Morgan spent his life advancing connections among Welsh-Americans, and between those Welsh-Americans and the Welsh.

Born in Portsmouth, OH, he was raised on a tradition of close family ties, social life focused on the church, reverence for one's heritage, and appreciation of the arts. . . Shortly before he turned eight, his father died and his mother was left with two small children and little else. His mother made sure {they } had voice, music, elocution and dancing lessons. . . in payment for this he was told he could never refuse to perform when asked. As a result, his performance skills grew prodigiously.

[In 1925] Dave entered Ohio State University and joined the Men's Glee Club. He served. . . as accompanist for three years, and was elected its president twice . . . He enrolled at OSU's College of Law, graduating in 1932. . . He saved diligently so that he could afford to take his mother back to Wales to see her ancestral homes, "Brynele" and "Pantybeudy" in Cardiganshire. . . prior to their departure, WWII began and their plans were canceled.

In 1948, he founded the Columbus Welsh Singing society, which would become the Welsh Society of Central Ohio. . .sponsored its first National Gymanfa Ganu just four years later. He put off his long desired trip to Wales until after the death of his mother in 1953 and his wife Ellen Vick Morgan in 1964. One trip did it for him, and for the next twenty years he led tour groups through the land of his fathers.... During one of these tours, he met his "Brynele" cousin,

Dafydd Edwards. . . . In 1979 [they] arranged for a several day celebration of the Cardiganshire-Ohio Welsh connection [BBS and ITV coverage] included sold-out gymanfa, a banquet, the planting of an oak tree. . . .in Aberaeron, a concert. . . . The most touching event was the singing of the same songs which were sung at the quay in 1832 to the departing Welsh. A great-great-grandson of the little boy who originally sang stood in his progenitor's shoes and sang with such feeling that there were few dry eyes present. . . . He also brought Welsh artists to America for numerous events, and has built lasting bridges between the Land of Our Fathers and the Land of Our Choice.

Even in the last year of his life, Dave was working on the 1986 National Gymanfa Ganu held in Columbus. How proud he would be that his daughter, Mary Ellen, is chairing the third Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu to come to Columbus.

Along the way, Dave Morgan practiced law for 53 years, had 3 children, David, Tom and Mary Ellen; saw active sea duty in both theaters of WWII; was a member of the 14th District Naval Courts and Boards; served as an elder of his church; was elected State Senator; was president of the Buckeye Republican Club; designed Japanese gardens. . . never missed a family reunion; was president of the Republican Men's Glee Club; was a Joint Board Member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. . . . He was a man of wit, elegance, eloquence, tenderness, compassion, intelligence, tenacity and Welshness. He is a credit to his race and to his family.

PREACHERS

Rev. Aeron Davies

Rev. Aeron Davies served at the church services in Los Angeles 1966, Milwaukee 1970, Chicago 1972, Columbus 1986 and Pittsburgh 1999. He was born in the village of Hirwaun, just outside of Aberdare in South Wales. He was ordained in 1961 and took his first pastorate in the Rhondda Valley. He came to Canada in 1962 to serve in Northern Ontario and has since served Niagara Falls, at the Welsh church in Chicago and in Michigan. Since March 1, 1986, he and his family have lived in Carrollton, OH where he is pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. He served as a WNGGA trustee for 1974-77.

Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies

Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies B.A., B.D., Ph.D participated in and preached during many of the National church services including Buffalo 1968, Montreal 1985, Wilkes-Barre 1993, Milwaukee 1997, Columbus 1998, Ottawa 2000 and San Jose 2001. He is a native of Pembrokeshire, Wales and was ordained into the ministry of the Welsh Congregational Church in 1951. He later served three pastorates in Wales. In 1963, he emigrated with his family to Canada to become a minister in the United Church which he served for 30 years, 14 of which were at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, Toronto. (The only Welsh church in Canada) Cerwyn is a graduate of Universities in Wales, England, Canada and the United States with a doctorate in creative writing. In 1986, he became a member of the Gorsedd Y Beirdd at the National Eisteddfod of Wales. He has served as President of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association. His service with the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association began as a trustee in 1990 and continued as president in 1996-98. In addition to all this, Cerwyn sings in the North American Welsh Choir.

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones

Rev. J. Humphreys Jones served during church services at Nationals in Salt Lake City 1955, Milwaukee 1958, Toronto 1959, Detroit 1963, Ottawa 1977 and Niagara Falls, NY 1979. He is a native of Amlwch Anglesey (Gwynedd). A graduate of the University College of North Wales Bangor, he received his theological training at Bala and Aberystwyth theological colleges. Ordained in 1940, he ministered on Deeside, Tenby and Llandudno before coming to Canada in 1951 to become minister at Dewi Sant United Church-Toronto. In 1964, he became minister at Humbervale United Church-West Toronto where he remained until he retired in 1973. He remained active in religious and Welsh cultural Circles. He was a trustee of the WNGGA for a total of eight years and its president in 1980-82.

The Rev. Enid R. Morgan

In 1994 at Bellevue, WA, The Rev. Enid R. Morgan became the first woman minister to preach at a National church service. Rev. Morgan is Director of Mission for the Church in Wales (Episcopalian). She grew up in Ammanford on the edge of the South Wales coalfield and was nurtured in the Welsh Baptist tradition. She was educated at the Amman Valley Grammar School and St. Anne's College, Oxford, where she read English. After graduation in 1961, she worked in journalism and broadcasting. In 1968, she became an Episcopalian and in 1971 began training for the lay ministry in the Church. In 1979, she entered full-time theological education at the United Theological College (Presbyterian) Aberystwyth, and in 1984 was ordained Deacon in the Church in Wales. For nine years Rev. Morgan worked, first as assistant curate and then cleric-in-charge, caring for four rural, mainly Welsh-speaking parishes near Aberystwyth on the West Wales coast. The Church in Wales still does not ordain women priests. She now works from her provincial office in Penarth, near Cardiff, but her duties take her all over the province of Wales. Rev. Morgan is well known throughout Wales for her preaching and for her contributions to radio, television and Welsh-language journalism.

The Reverend Dr. Gwyn Walters

The Reverend Dr. Gwyn Walters, who served as Guest Preacher for Sunday Church services at six Nationals, was born in Llanelli, Wales He was Professor of Ministry at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, MA. He took an Honors degree in Philosophy at the University College of Wales, Cardiff; his theology degree at the Presbyterian United Theological College at Aberystwyth; and his Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

Rev. Walters served as Travelling Secretary for Inter-Varsity Fellowship in Wales, as pastor of a city church in Cardiff and a country church in Wenvoe near Cardiff. He was Director of the Cardiff Extension of the London Bible College. He preached and lectured throughout Wales in Welsh and English.

Since coming to the United States he taught at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey. He was pastor at First Welsh Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre before joining the Faculty at Gordon-Conwell Seminary.

He was Guest Preacher at the 1973. Gymanfa Ganu (Toronto) and the 1975 Gymanfa Ganu (New York) Continuing his service for the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Rev. Dr. Walters preached the sermons at the 1978 National (Minneapolis), at the 1983 National (Wilkes-Barre), and the Nationals at Baltimore (1988), and Cincinnati (1991).

He composed the words and music for several hymns and is the author of *Unwaith Eto Nghymru Annwyl (Home Again to Wales) and Toward Healthy Preaching.*

(Extracted from the 1978 Program.)

[I first heard Rev. Walters in Baltimore 1988 and was greatly impressed. He was a master of the gesture, inflection, posture, poise, and everything else necessary to put across a sermon both as education and as entertainment.]

SECRETARIES-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

George Bundy (August 17, 1877-January 22, 1978)

George Bundy, of Warren, Ohio, deserves to be called “The Icon of the Gymanfa Ganu” on the North American Continent. Certainly, he served longer (34 years) than any WNGGA officer. He performed a wider variety of significant tasks. Functioning before the computer, copier and printer; he, probably, completed the greatest workload of any single WNGGA volunteer.

I found it particularly sad that, with the exception of short accolades that appeared in the 1947 and 1959 Programs, his work, if recognized at all, was only recorded in the minutes of the organization. I found it even sadder that his passing went unnoticed except for a short undated announcement in the minutes of a 1978 WNGGA meeting and a memorial entered in the 1978 Program by Gwen T. Williams of Florida.

I was able to locate three remembrances of George Bundy. The first was provided by the late **John O. Morgans** and the second by **Nelson L. Llewellyn**. I could not find the date of George Bundy’s death until **Dr. Arturo Roberts** provided an early issue of *Ninnau* (May 1, 1978) that contained an obituary written by John O. Morgans.

The following report on George Bundy is extracted from a newspaper article written by John O. Morgans back in the 1960’s.

“Warren, Ohio—At eighty-nine Mr. George Bundy has about him the aura of chirpiness that somehow seems to elude younger men. As chief executive administrator of this continent’s leading Welsh organization, the National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc. of the United States and Canada, he has assumed almost gargantuan responsibilities over the past thirty-two years.

Mr. Bundy has served the Gymanfa organization continuously as executive secretary since first elected in 1934, and had also embraced the duties of treasurer as well from 1945 to 1961. He is also on the board of trustees

Though Mr. Bundy has been in the United States sixty years, he has never forgotten his native Abercarn in Monmouthshire.... Mr. Bundy was born [in Abercarn] August 17, 1877.... When barely eleven years old his formal education ended, and he commenced work in the Prince of Wales Colliery at Abercarn.... he enjoyed the Sunday school. . .when very young he developed a deep affinity for the eisteddfod, and had attended numerous local and one national eisteddfod before leaving for the United States in 1906.

He settled at Warren, Ohio, . . .he found work as a blacksmith, and to this day he likes to call himself the “Blacksmith from Abercarn.”

In 1915, he became a subscriber and contributor to the “Druid”. . .In 1925 he was elected president of the Cymric Association of America, which in 1929 took under its wing the Trumbull County (Ohio) Eisteddfod Association. The first National Eisteddfod was held at Warren in 1931. Mr. Bundy was one of its founders and, in turn, served as its president and treasurer. From 1931 to 1944, he was easily the eisteddfod’s most energetic worker. . .For his record of dedicated service

to the American eisteddfod the very active blacksmith was voted a life member of the American Gorsedd with the bardic title of “Sior Goch.”

. . . he has charted its [the NGGA’s] progressive direction. . . it has been Mr. Bundy mainly who has been responsible for its steady advance. . . Americans and Canadians of all races have become aware of the Gymanfa Ganu. . . everyone knows that it is at the Gymanfa Ganu that Welsh-Americans and Welsh-Canadians alike demonstrate that wonderful thing called “hwyl” in the outpourings of their unhibited renderings of the old hymn favourites of Wales. . . . The former blacksmith may not use the smooth talking methods of slick executives, but he has a tremendous faculty for getting things done. . . another project is called “The Compilation of Welsh Titles.” It consists of collecting, copying and cataloging the titles of books about Wales, Welsh customs, Welsh traditions and the Welsh people. When completed, the collection will be donated to the Welsh-American National Library which will be established in the near future. [As reported elsewhere in the body of the history, George Bundy expended a great effort travelling and investigating Welsh collections in various university libraries and museums leading toward the possible designation of a repository or establishment of the library. This project was later dropped as being beyond the Purpose of the NGGA.]

Appreciation for Mr. Bundy’s noble work has come from many quarters. He highly regards the William R. Hopkins Medal which he received from the St. David’s Society of the State of New York. The medal was presented to Mr. Bundy for his many years of promoting the Welsh culture on the American scene.

As the people gather to sing in increasingly larger numbers, everyone feels indebted to the blacksmith from Abercarn who has made these national events possible. We hope to have him with us for a long time yet. His presence will have greater meaning in all of our singing for the quality of his personality becomes an inspiration while giving voice to beloved tunes.”

Nelson L. Llewellyn provided a copy of an undated Certificate of Commendation issued in the name of The National Gymanfa Ganu of the United States and Canada upon Bundy’s retirement in 1967. It reads

“In appreciation of his ability, devotion, allegiance and personal sacrifices to the Gymanfa Ganu which have been vital to and have contributed much to the growth and character of this association.

To the presidents, officers, trustees and members of the many committees, he has been a valued friend, a helpful associate, guide and councilor.

His untiring efforts through the years have laid the foundation and guidelines which will preserve the true spiritual character of the Gymanfa Ganu.

His, has been truly a labor of love.

He is respected, honored and beloved by every member of this association. It is our sincere hope and prayer that he may be blessed with good health, strength and increased opportunities for even greater achievement in the noble effort to further the cause of the Gymanfa Ganu and thus help to keep alive our religious heritage which is symbolized by the Gymanfa Ganu.”

The obituary written by John O. Morgans for *Ninnau* disclosed that personal messages were received from President Jimmy Carter, British Prime Minister James Callaghan and Secretary of State for Wales John Morris among the hundreds received for George Bundy’s 100th birthday.

George Bundy died on 22 January 1978, in Carlisle, PA, three months beyond his 100th birthday

Jack Meadows (November 11, 1906-August 7, 1984)

(The following biography on Jack Meadows is adapted primarily from his obituary, written by John O. Morgans, that appeared the October 1, 1984 issue of *Ninnau*.)

Jack Meadows was born on November 11, 1906 in Llanbradach, Gwent, Wales, the son of John and Lilly Davies Meadows. He attended schools in Llanbradach and Caerhilly and started working at 12 for a local grocery store. He entered the mines at Penalta and Llanbradach at 14. He liked to tell of his boyhood alive with hard-working, singing miners, industry, coal mines, friendly neighbors, boxing, rugby football, bands choirs and always the church and hymn singing.

He arrived in the United States with his father in 1922. He remembered his unpleasant experience at Ellis Island and the revolting taste of his first American breakfast—a can of sardines. His mother and sisters arrived in 1925 and the family decided on Youngstown as a permanent home.

Before embarking on his distinguished public service career, Jack worked for Republic Steel and as a welding instructor with the G. M. McKelvey Co. His 33-year career at the Mahoning County Courthouse began in the auditor's office. He then moved to the prosecutor's office as a special investigator before beginning his 20-year career as Chief Assignment Commissioner to the Mahoning County Common Pleas Court. He received many commendations winning respect for his work from judges, attorneys, stenographers, and others associated with his legal work. The Council and Administration of the City of Youngstown, OH recognised his retirement on September 1, 1978 with A Resolution Commending Jack Meadows For His Thirty-three Years of Dedicated Public Service in The Mahoning County Court House. One news commentator complained that the Mahoning County Court House had lost its Welsh accent, its Welsh assignments commissioner, its Welsh song leader and stated that the colorful and usually smiling Welshman would be missed.

Jack and his father attended the 1929 first National Gymanfa Ganu in Niagara Falls, NY. Little did he know then how deeply he would become involved in the newly formed National Gymanfa Association. Early on he became involved in the activities of the Welsh community in Youngstown. He was elected president of the St. David's Society of Youngstown and was still serving as president when he died. His helping George Bundy for many years led to his election as secretary of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada (later becoming the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association) in 1968. He served until 1983 when he announced his requirement due to ill health at the 1983 National in Wilkes-Barre. In 1982, *Ninnau* conferred the title of "Mr. Gymanfa Ganu" on Jack Meadows for "his loyalty to the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association for more than 50 years and admiration for his excellent record of service as an executive officer which had helped elevate the organization to a position of eminence throughout North America."

Jack Meadows died on August 7, 1984. He was survived by his wife **Catherine Devaney Meadows** and three sons John, James and Robert, a sister Mrs. Nellie Beach and nine grandchildren. He was a member of the Fosterville Presbyterian Church and a 32nd Degree Mason. At services, Rev. John R. Owen said that "Jack's Christian faith was a practical one expressed in the words he sang at numerous cymanfaoedd canu:

Living or dying Lord
I ask but to be thine;
My life in Thee, Thy life in me,
Makes heaven forever mine.

Jack Meadows was remembered in the 1984 Program for the Portland, OR National.

“Jack Meadows (Mr. Gymanfa Ganu) of Youngstown, Ohio, Secretary Emeritus for the Welsh National Gymanfa passed away on Tuesday, August 7, 1984.

A native of Llanbradach, South Wales, Jack remained a staunch Welshman throughout his years. He served as secretary of the association from 1968 to 1983 when he tendered his resignation in Wilkes-Barre, PA due to his continuing failing health.

He was a person who always did what he thought was best for the WNGGA; his death brings a great loss to the many loyal friends and associates that he has cultivated through his 16 years as executive secretary.

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Catherine and all of the family.

A Fo Byw Yn Dduwial A Fydd Marw Yn Ddedwydd”

Nelson L. Llewellyn

Nelson Lewis Llewellyn was born on August 28, 1917 in Warren, OH. The Gymanfa Ganu has always been an important part of his life. It could be said that his life has been in preparation for his role in the WNGGA. At an early age, his parents, **Lewis William** and **Mary Cristine Llewellyn** recognized his talent and love of music. His study of the violin, cello, trumpet and saxophone led to his primary interest in vocal music. From an early age, his vocal talent included winning performances at the Trumbull County Annual Eisteddfod.

Nelson was educated in the schools of Warren and Trumbull County and at Kent State University where he majored in Industrial Arts with a minor in Political Science in the school of education. His vocal training was provided by **Professor Harold Haugh**, an outstanding American concert and oratorio tenor and voice teacher at Hiram and Oberlin Colleges in Ohio and the University of Michigan.

Prior to World War II, Nelson was employed as a production machinist at Peerless Electrical (Warren) and as an industrial engineer at Goodyear Aircraft Corp. (Akron). During World War II he served in the U. S. Army Air Corps for three years as an airplane mechanic and crew chief, being honorably discharged in 1946. Following the war, he was employed by The Republic Steel Corp. as a supervising Industrial Engineer, retiring in 1982 after 35 years of service.

During his working life, Nelson continued to devote a big part of his life to singing in churches. His special interest and performances in the great oratorios (St. Matthew Passion, The St. John Passion, Messiah and Judas Maccabeus) earned him the local title as the Dean of Oratorio Soloists. His vocal interests led to many services with Welsh-American activities.

His association with the Gymanfa Ganu started with the Niles Gymanfa Ganu Association where he served a president for many years. He participated in gymanfaoedd in the Warren, Niles, Youngstown, Cleveland and Pittsburgh areas. He also served as secretary/treasurer of the St. David's Society of Youngstown for 13 years and was its Welsh Man of the Year for 1990. He continues today as a trustee and its Gymanfa Director. One of the highlights of his singing career was the invitation to be soloist at the 1976 Bi-Centennial National Gymanfa Ganu in Philadelphia. He organized a Welsh quartet, optimistically called the Cŏr Bach Cymreig (Small Welsh Choir). He arranged the American concert tours of the Dowlais Male Voice Choir in 1982 and the North Wales Masonic Choir in 1989.

Always a supporter of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Nelson L. Llewellyn's motto “Work for the Good of the Organization” was always evident. He was elected Assistant Secretary of the WNGGA in 1978 and became

its Secretary in 1983. He considered it an honor to conduct the Memorial Service for deceased WNGGA members for 16 years. He became the first Executive Director of the WNGGA in 1994. His conduct of the affairs of the WNGGA, always recognized as a major factor in the success of the Association, included the most critical task of locating sites for the Nationals. This required keen logistical analysis and travel to view, advise and assist venue committees. His dedication became even more evident when he performed these demanding duties in spite of a series of serious illnesses.

The National Welsh-American Foundation recognized Nelson, in 1994, with the award of its Heritage Medallion for his service to the Welsh American community. His other distinguished recognitions include the 1998 George Jones Award from Green Mountain College in Poultney, VT; the 1998 WNGGA National Executive Secretary Award; and the 2002 Gwobr Gwynfor Evans Award.

Nelson surprised and thrilled many in Columbus when he returned to the stage of the 1998 National Gymanfa Ganu with his baritone performance of “Thus Saith the Lord” and “Who May Abide the Day of His Coming” from Handel’s *Messiah*.

He is particularly proud of his long affiliation with the First Presbyterian Church in Warren where he has served as Deacon and Elder and a participant in all the church choral activities. He is a 50 year member (2001) of Masonic Lodge Old Erie #3. Additional affiliations include the York Rite Bodies; the Scottish Rite, Valley of Youngstown; and the Royal Order of Scotland. In 1983, he received the 33rd Degree in Milwaukee.

Nelson’s first wife, **Gertrude Jones Llewellyn** passed away in October 1975. His late wife, **Elizabeth (Betty) Jones Llewellyn**, who passed away in 1997, will always be remembered as a National President of the Women’s Welsh Clubs of America. Nelson serves on the Board of Trustees as Trustee at Large of The Women’s Welsh Clubs of America, Inc. since 1992 where he has been Chairman of the Finance and Investment Committee, Chairman of the Landscaping Committee and, for the past four years, a member of the By-Laws Committee

At this time [December 2003], Nelson L. Llewellyn continues his deep interest in WNGGA affairs and looks forward to its 75th Anniversary Celebration in 2004.

Dr. Ellis J. Jones

A third-generation Welsh-American, Dr. Ellis J. Jones is a native of the Welsh community of Cambria located in south central Minnesota. He is a graduate of New Ulm, Minnesota High School and earned his bachelor degree from Gustavus Adolphus College (BA). Following service in the U. S. Army (1952-54), he earned graduate degrees from the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis (MA), and the University of North Dakota-Grand Forks (D. Ed.). A life-long business teacher, he taught for three years at Plainville High School, Plainville, Minnesota and from 1958-1998 in the Department of Economics and Management at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota.

From 1966-1987, he was on a part time basis the National Executive Secretary/Director of Delta Pi Epsilon, a national honorary professional graduate society in business education, with his primary responsibility being management of the national office for that organization.

Active in many Welsh-American organizations including the Minnesota Gymanfa Ganu Association and the St. David’s Society of Minnesota, he served as Vice Chairperson for Registration and Public Relations for the 1978 National Gymanfa Ganu in Minneapolis and on the WNGGA Board of Trustees from 1987-1996. During 1992-1994, he was Presi-

dent of the WNGGA. In September 1998 he was appointed Executive Director of the WNGGA and now manages the International Headquarters of the organization.

He (a tenor) and his wife, **Janet**, (a soprano) have attended over 20 nationals. They have two children, **Karen and David**, and three grandchildren. [Taken from the Program of the 68th National Gymanfa Ganu, Minneapolis, MN, September 2-5, 1999.

[I am a strong believer in Welsh coincidences and have experienced many in the past. How can one explain this conjunction of dates other than by a mysterious influence over the Welsh? I was born on 13 November 1924 and Ellis J. Jones was born on 13 November 1931. We both assumed important WNGGA offices, president and executive director, respectively, at the 6 September 1998 BOT meeting in Columbus.]

APPENDIX G

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONALS

Awr y Plant (Children's Hour)

During the 1967 Annual General Meeting in Toronto, it was reported that this new event for the National was the 1961 inspiration of **Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Davies** of Hamilton, ON. Since then, it had become a regular feature of the annual Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association Festival. It was considered a fine opportunity for children up to age 14 to perform Welsh items either vocally or instrumentally and to be exposed to the tradition of the gymanfa. As a token of Canada's 100th birthday, The Awr y Plant committee purchased a small quantity of Ontario Centennial Medals and each child taking part was able to take home a souvenir. The Awr y Plant has become a frequent feature of the Nationals.

Bi-lingual Church Service-

The first Sunday morning Church Service was carried in the Program for the 1948 National in Detroit. The Bi-lingual Church Service has been a regular attraction of the Nationals. It presents an opportunity for both Welsh and non-Welsh speakers to experience the "Hwyl" often associated with Welsh preachers. Hwyl (hooill) is another one of those words that is subject to many interpretations probably as many as there are Welsh. Y Geiriadur Mawr (The Complete Welsh-English – English Welsh Dictionary) lists words such as mood, sing-song, and cadence and includes Pob Hwyl-Good Luck. Hwyl also implies emotion, feeling, fervor or spirit. For me, Hwyl includes the speaking techniques of the Preacher. While he may not have been a fire and brimstone preacher, Rev. Dr. **Gwyn Walters** was a master of the gesture, inflection, posture, poise, and everything else necessary to put across a sermon both as education and entertainment. A frequent preacher at Nationals, a biographical sketch of The Reverend Dr. Gwyn Walters appears in Appendix F.

The message received during the church service provides an introduction and prepares one for the climax of religious activities at a National—The Gymanfa Ganu,

The 1998 Church Service in Columbus was the first under the control of the WNGGA Board of Directors, The Presiding Minister was **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies**, BA, BD, Ph.D., President of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, who issued the Call to Worship. **Rev. Gomer Jenkins** read from the Old Testament while **Very Rev. Dean Wyn Evans**, of St. David's Cathedral, Wales read from the New Testament. The Memorial Service was conducted by **Nelson L. Llewellyn**, Executive Director Emeritus of the WNGGA assisted with the rose placements by **Jessica Rees Yarter** and **Thoms Rees Yarter**. The sermon was by **Rev. Hedd-Wyn Williams**, BA, M. Div., MBE.

Call to Order

There were various ways of getting the Gymanfa Ganu started with Presidents of the Session or Chairman of the Session issuing a Call to Order. Beginning in 1951, this all seemed to stabilize and, with few exceptions, the afternoon and evening sessions were called to order by the NGGA president and secretary respectively. The current arrangement, of hav-

ing the afternoon and evening sessions called to order by the WNGGA president and vice president respectively, began in 1981.

Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony at the evening session of a National Gymanfa Ganu has always been one of the highlights holding a special significance for regular attendees. The seating arrangement, that groups voices (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) in sections of the auditorium, brings together friends and/or singing partners who may be meeting for their only time from year to year. They are probably from different parts of the continent and may include others from overseas and members of the visiting choir.

There is almost anticipation as the evening session nears its end. In most cases in recent years, the singing seems to reach a crescendo with that most favorite hymn *Cwm Rhondda-Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*.

The WNGGA vice president usually conducts the ceremony with all of the evening's participants on the stage. There is a momentary lull when the line of succession is maintained with the passing of the flags, chain of office and other symbols of continuity from the chairman of the local committee to the chairman of next year's committee who accepts formal responsibility for next year's National. The singing of the Welsh national anthem, *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau-Land of My Fathers*, is more a sign of affection than nationalism on the part of those living this side of the Atlantic. The Benediction closes the Gymanfa Ganu service of worship and praise.

There has always been a strong emotional overtone signifying the end of another National. There is the parting of friends and the anticipation of the next meeting. Emotions reach a climax with the joining of hands on the stage and stretching throughout the hall and the singing of *God Be With You*. A raising of hands as the final notes sound seems to recognize that for some this will have been their final National Gymanfa Ganu. Welsh tears, always close to the surface, flow. I was honored with the responsibility for closing the evening session at the Columbus 1998 National. With tears flowing, I remember turning around and seeing tears streaming down the face of **Geraint Dodd**, an accomplished and seasoned soloist and operatic tenor.

Although it was first sung at the 1931 National in Niagara Falls, NY, *God Be With You Till We Meet Again* first appeared in the Program for the Sixth Annual Gymanfa Ganu (1934) and was sung in Cleveland, OH.

The Chairperson's Chain of Office

The Victoria Welsh Society, at the 1990 Victoria National, presented the future chairperson responsible for arranging the annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu with a bronze chain of office. The medallion is engraved with a Celtic cross symbolic of the spiritual backdrop of the Association's annual gathering. It also displays the dragon, heraldic symbol of Wales, a "handshake" representing the friendship and fellowship experienced within our community and the sea which separates the old homeland from the new.

Eisteddfod

During the 1953 meeting in Rochester, a suggestion was made that the sponsoring committee be authorized to arrange an eisteddfod on the Monday following the Gymanfa Ganu. No action was taken.

The first Eisteddfod was held at the 1994 National in Bellevue, WA. The response from competitors was so great (6 tenor/bass and 10 soprano/alto) that a preliminary solo competition had to be held to narrow the field for the finals. There were four in the instrumental competition and five choral groups. Adjudicators were **D. Eifion Thomas** and **Mari Morgan** for the vocal competition and **Alan S. Rees** for the instrumental. Tenor **John Owen**, Boise, ID won the Wales Tourist Board trophy and soprano **Eluned Jones** from Virginia won the Puget Sound Welsh Association Trophy. Flutist **Carmen Maret** from Idaho won the Urdd Gobaith Cymru (The Welsh League of Youth) trophy. *Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymraig* (The Welsh National Eisteddfod) trophy was won by The Whitney Women's Chorale from Idaho. The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association donated the cash prize for the choral competition. There was an Eisteddfod Bardic Chair, won by **Michael R. Hughes** at an eisteddfod held in Talaeth, WA in 1890. The chair was on loan from the Bryn Seion Church of Beavercreek, OR for the eisteddfod.

In 2000, there was an Eisteddfod by Mail, organized by *Y Drych*, with winners announced by Editor **Mary Morris Mergenthal**. The Eisteddfod by Mail continued for a number of years.

The following article on the Eisteddfod is taken from the 1994 Bellevue National Program.

EISTEDDFOD

Eisteddfodau (eye-steth-fod-eye) are traditional Welsh cultural competitions in literature, music, and dancing. The highlights of each Annual National Eisteddfod in Wales are the chairing of the bard, the crowning of the bard and the male voice choir competition. To win at the national Eisteddfod in Wales is a great prize. In recent years, the "National" has had resurgence in popularity and is now firmly entrenched as the focus of Welsh culture.

North America has a history of *Eisteddfodau*, excellently documented by **Robert A. Fowkes** in the March 1994 issue of the North American Newspaper, *Y Drych*. The history, chronicles various efforts to maintain *eisteddfodau* throughout the North American Welsh Community beginning in 1850 in Carbondale, PA. The *Cynon Eisteddfod* began 1889 and is still going (The Dr. Edwards Welsh Church in Edwardsville, PA) and is regarded as the oldest annual eisteddfod in America. Notable for the Puget Sound Welsh Association was the holding of the Alaska Yukon Pacific Eisteddfod in Seattle in 1909.

In 1923, the National Eisteddfod Association of America was founded with a special grant from the National Eisteddfod Association of Wales. This society held several *eisteddfodau*, the last in 1940 in Warren, OH. The eisteddfod tradition was continued by several groups in both America and Canada, notably the *Dewi Sant Eisteddfod* in Toronto. The innovation of Eisteddfod by Mail was introduced by *Y Drych* in recent years.

Surprisingly, never before has an Eisteddfod been held in conjunction with the National Gymanfa Ganu weekend. We felt that it was time to test the idea. Our competition is bilingual, vocal competitors have to sing at least one piece in Welsh. We did not include recitation or literature. We anticipate a successful competition and hope that it will become an integral part of National Gymanfa Ganu Festivals. That will be up to future organizing committees and perhaps also the support of the WNGGA.

We are indebted to the Welsh National Eisteddfod and *Urdd Gobaith Cymru* (The Welsh League of Youth) for donating trophies. The auspices of the Wales Tourist Board in obtaining this

support is gratefully acknowledged. The prize of \$150 for the Choral Competition is sponsored by the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

Following Bellevue in 1994, eisteddfodau were held in:

Milwaukee 1997- Solo Voice, Senior Hymn, Solo Instrumental, Choral/Family Ensemble. The Competition Schedule listed a Vocal Solo Competition (9 singers) in two groups and Hymn Singing for Seniors (4 singers) on Friday with an Adjudication and Awards Ceremony. The Saturday schedule listed an Instrumental Solo Competition (5 artists) and a Choral/Family Ensemble Competition (4 groups) and an Adjudication and Awards Ceremony.

Columbus 1998-Solo Female, Solo Male, Instrumental, and Overall Musician.

Minneapolis 1999-Solo Instrumental, Solo Voice, and Literature (exhibition only): declamation, written. The 1999 Eisteddfod added a new feature. Participants were given the opportunity to enter as an artist or an amateur. The adjudicators chose winners in the artist division. Amateur participants were given the opportunity to perform before an audience and receive comments from the adjudicators. An opportunity was provided for literary entries-both spoken and written as an exhibition. The literary adjudicator was Tegwyn Jones from Aberystwyth, vocal adjudicator was Welsh opera baritone Jeremy Huw Williams, and the instrumentalist adjudicator was Minnesota pianist Kathryn Ananda-Owens.

Ottawa 2000-solo voice youth, solo voice adult, Welsh language poetry, English language poetry, Welsh language prose, English language prose, choral, family vocal/ensemble and senior solo hymn singing.

San Jose 2001

HYMN COMPETITION-HARRISBURG - The Program announced a Hymn Competition, for Harrisburg in 1995, for the composition of an original Welsh hymn, prescribed the rules and regulations, a \$1,000 Grand Prize and other rewards, and established a deadline date of March 1, 1995, and an entry fee of \$25 U.S.

ENTERTAINMENT

The early national gymanfaoedd featured entertainment by local area soloists and choirs. Early financial reports were not very specific and it appears that accompanists were paid starting in early gymanfaoedd. Choirs were paid starting at the Fifteenth National in Akron in 1946. The tenor soloist for the Sixteenth National was **C. Wilfred Smith** from Florida. The first soloist brought in from Wales also for the Sixteenth was contralto **Margaret Tann Williams** of Cardiff, Wales. Frequent soloists were baritones **Robert Bodycombe** and **Mostyn Thomas**. In 1947 at Akron, expenses for artists, including soloists, a harpist, the music director, minister, and accompanists came to \$596.47.

There has been a consistent increase in the entertainment during a National. In Milwaukee in 1997, a nightclub style show provided the entertainment at the Grand Banquet. Entertainment expenses for the choir, band, and nightclub show reached \$30,240.

Elinor Bennett

Elinor Bennett started playing the harp at age ten but decided, on leaving school, to take an honours law degree at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. She won Countess of Munster scholarships to study harp under Osian Ellis at the Royal Academy of Music in London, gaining the Academy's Recital Diploma, the first harpist ever to do so. She joined the National Youth Orchestra of Wales in 1967. She gave her solo recital debut in Wigmore Hall in 1970 playing the first performance of Alan Hoddonitt's *Fantasy*, which he wrote for her. Her career was curtailed for ten years while she cared for the fatal incurable illness of her two elder sons. This gave her a special interest in music for mentally handicapped people and, in 1985, was awarded a Winston Churchill scholarship to research this. She has worked with all the major symphony orchestras in Britain. She was the principal Harp Tutor at the University College of North Wales at Bangor. She resides in the Caernarfon area with her husband Dafydd Wigley. She was soloist at the Baltimore 1988 and Utica 1996 Nationals.

Robert M. Bodycombe

Robert M. Bodycombe, of Pittsburgh, began his service to the National, as a baritone soloist, during the Gymanfa Ganu at the 1950 National in Canton. He went on to make appearances as Gymanfa Ganu soloist at the Milwaukee 1951, Chicago 1961, Pittsburgh 1965, and Milwaukee 1970 Nationals. At Pittsburgh 1965 and Chicago 1970, he joined with Lola Marshall in concert appearances. Bob also sang at the Noson Lawen in Pittsburgh 1989.

"Bob Bodycombe and Lola Marshall are widely known in the Eastern part of the U.S. for their programs of Broadway show music, also both have appeared with the Cleveland Symphony in the rendition of the "Messiah." They have appeared in St. David's Banquets in Utica, Baltimore, Pottsville, Pittsburgh, etc. They are also soloists at the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh.

Robin Huw Bowen

Robin Huw Bowen, a virtuoso player of Welsh triple harp, graduated with a degree in Welsh Language and Literature from University College of Wales-Aberystwyth. He learned the triple harp while at school. The triple harp, developed as an Italian Renaissance instrument is the forerunner of the concert pedal harp. It has three parallel rows of strings. The outer strings are tuned like the white keys on the piano with the inner string tuned like the black keys so that it can be played in any key. Robin was first exposed to the triple harp by the brothers Dafydd and Gwyndaf Roberts who played the instrument with the traditional Welsh group Ar Log. They had learned it from Nansi Richards, last of the Welsh gypsy harpists. While employed at the National Library of Wales, he did voluminous research collecting tunes and techniques from his country's elder harpists. He founded his own music publishing house for publication of traditional Welsh music. He has recorded two albums, *Cyfarch Y Delyn- (Honor the Harp)* and *Telyn Berseiniol fy Ngwlad (The Sweet Harp of My Land)*. He performed at the Nationals in Victoria 1990, Wilkes-Barre 1993 and San Jose 2001.

CWLWM

CWLWM is an outstandingly talented group of five women, winner at the 1984 National Eisteddfod in Wales. It was first heard in a spectacular performance at the 1990 National in Victoria. The group of five young women, with varied backgrounds in 1990, included **Delyth Medi Jones** who teaches music, **Eleri Twynog Davies** the marketing officer for the National Eisteddfod of Wales, **Shan Cothi** a professional singer, **Hedydd Thomas** teachers school, and **Elin Jones** a grants officer for the Development Board of Rural Wales and Mayor of Aberystwyth. Mayor Jones writes all the Welsh words for all the CWLWM songs. According to Y Geiriadur Mawr, CWLWM means Knot.

Geraint Dodd

Geraint Dodd, **solo** tenor with the Welsh National Opera, made his debut in 1989 at the Royal Festival Hall in London. The following year he appeared in the Welsh Prom Concerts in Cardiff in a concert performance of “Nabucco.” He is recipient of the Ricordi Prize for Opera, The Webster Booth Scholarship, and is a Diplomate of the Royal Northern College of Music. Recent concert performances included the Orquestre de Sinfonica Portuguese and Handel’s *Messiah* from Liverpool Cathedral. He was scheduled to appear with the San Francisco Opera for six weeks in the Fall of 1998.

Dafydd Edwards & The Edwards Sisters

Dafydd Edwards, one of Wales’ best known popular tenors, is very well known and appreciated in North America as well. He has also been a favorite of the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association. His National appearances included Columbus 1986, Victoria 1990 and Columbus 1998. He includes singing of classical, popular ballads, and traditional “penillion” (a singing style where singers fit set pieces or improvise verses to fit melodies usually played by harpists) in his repertoire. Much of his formal training was under Professor Redvers Jones at the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth. He has been a winner at the National Eisteddfod of Wales on several occasions. He is a regular performer at concerts in Wales and England and a familiar voice on TV and radio.

Menna and Gwawr, the daughters of Dafydd Edwards have built a solid following. Menna holds a degree in Musical Accompaniment from the University College of Wales in Cardiff. She accompanies her father on concert tours and innumerable recordings. She is a popular solo performer at concerts and eisteddfodau and has accompanied many Welsh male voice choirs. Gwawr, who was 13 during her appearance at the Columbus 1998 National, had studied harp for five years at that time and singing for eleven years. She has mastered the difficult “penillion” singing form which is unique to Wales.

Catrin Finch

Catrin Finch is one of the new generation of Welsh harpists. Born in 1980, she began studying the harp at eight with Elinor Bennett. At 16, she moved to London to attend the Purcell School of Music to study with Skaila Kanga and to continue her studies at the Royal Academy of Music. Performing at most major concert venues in Britain, Catrin has won prizes for her talent since age 11. She was principal harpist of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain 1990-96 and was the youngest ever to perform at a BBC Promenade concert in Royal Albert Hall. She won the Young Concert Artists (New York) prize in 2000 that gave her debuts in New York, Washington, DC and Boston. In 2000, Catrin received the

Royal Appointment as Harpist to HRH the Prince of Wales. A recent performance of a duo harp concerto with her former tutor Elinor Bennett, with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, received a standing ovation at St. David's Hall in Cardiff.

Dafydd Iwan

For over 35 years, Dafydd Iwan has been a major figure in both the entertainment and political fields in Wales. He first came to prominence as a protest singer and leader of the Welsh language campaigns of the 60's. Since then he has composed over 200 songs, released 18 albums including 8 CD's, 3 live videos, several song books and an autobiography. In 1969, he founded Sain record company with Huw Jones, of which he is now managing director. He was also a founder or early member of The Welsh Language Society, Nant Gwrtheyrn Language Center, Antur Waunfawr centre for the disabled and Tai Gwynedd Housing Association. He is ex-chair of both Plaid Cymru and Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg. He is an honorary member of the Gorsedd and Honorary Fellow of the University of Wales at both Bangor and Aberystwyth for his contribution to the culture and political life of Wales. His songs cover a wide range of styles and subjects, and could be described as a country folk/rock singer-songwriter with an attitude! He sings of Wales and of the world with emphasis on the struggle to keep alive the great diversity of human culture, and he does so with wit, humor and compassion. He lives with his wife Bethan and sons near Caernarfon and is a Plaid Cymru member and a member of the Gorsedd. His appearances at Nationals included Wilkes-Barre 1993, Milwaukee 1997 and San Jose 2001.

Gaynor Jones Low and David Low

The team of soprano **Gaynor Jones** and her husband accompanist/organist **David Low**, of Toronto, performed at Nationals in Niagara Falls, NY 1979, Utica 1981 and Toronto 1982.

Gaynor Jones immigrated to Canada when her father Rev. J. Humphreys Jones, long time trustee and later president of the WNGGA (1980-82), became the minister of Dewi Sant in Toronto. She received her music education being a graduate in Toronto (Faculty of Music, University of Toronto) and in London, England (Royal Conservatory of Music). She is the recipient of many awards and a National Eisteddfod of Wales winner. In 1982, she was a member of the Canadian Opera Company. In addition to the above appearances at Nationals, she was the soprano soloist at the Nationals in Los Angeles 1966, Toronto 1967, Toronto 1973 and chaired the Awr Y Plant at the 1979 National.

David was the organist at the 1979 National and accompanist for his wife's solos during the 1981 and 1982 Nationals. Born in Oakville, ON, David received his honours degree in music from the University of Toronto and an Associateship Diploma and Choirmaster's diploma from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. At this time, he was Assistant Head of Music at Jarvis Collegiate, Assistant Choirmaster and Organist at St. Paul's Anglican Church and Music Director of the Concord Singers of Toronto.

Margaret Rees

Margaret Rees of Royal Oak, MI studied Welsh at a Cwrs Cymraeg in Pennsylvania. She has many honors to her name not the least of which is being chosen the Young Singer of the Year at the 1983 International Eisteddfod in Llangollen. She may be the only American to hold that distinction. She was awarded a concert tour of Great Britain by the Welsh

Arts Council. The WNGGA played a part in this tour when Margaret was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship in 1984, one of the first group under the its newly established scholarship program.

Nansi Richards

Soprano Nansi Richards was born at Cwmgors, a village on the border between the old counties Glamorgan and Carmarthen. She has proven to be a successful competitor winning the first prize at the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales on three occasions. She also won a Glamorgan County Scholarship which enabled her to study at the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth. She is one of Wales' most popular sopranos and has performed in concerts and oratorios in London and in the provinces. Nansi was the concert soloist at the National in New York 1975, the concert and Gymanfa Ganu soloist in Minneapolis 1978 and the Gymanfa Ganu soloist in Vancouver 1980.

Amedee Daryl Williams

Amadee Daryl Williams, a native of Utica, performed at Nationals in Utica 1981, Toronto 1982, Wilkes-Barre 1983, Montreal 1985 and Utica 1996. He plays both the violin and the viola. He studied the violin with Sobolersky for three years, and as a violinist was a member of the All Eastern Orchestra, the New York All-State Orchestra and the Orchestral Studies Orchestra of Saratoga. As a violist, he has been a member of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada 1984/85 season. He has attended McGill University in Montreal. In 1985, he was a student of Stephan Kondale of Montreal and Kim Kashkashian of New York City. At the time of his Utica 1996 concert appearance as violist, Amadee was residing in New York City where he performs as soloist, music consultant and a member of the Olana String Quartet which he founded.

Flag Raising and Opening Ceremonies

The Program of the 1981 National in Utica listed a noon Flag Raising Ceremony at City Hall Terrace with a mini-Gymanfa and special music. A similar ceremony, held at Wilkes-Barre Public Square in 1983, included national anthems, selections by choral groups and an orchestral concert. Opening ceremonies have taken various forms. For example, the 2000 opening ceremony in Ottawa was followed with the Welsh Fusilier Band, of Bangor Area High School, PA, and enthusiastic band followers marching up the streets of Ottawa to Parliament Hill for a concert of Welsh music. The 70th Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu in San Jose 2001 opened with a parade of the flags of the six Celtic Nations followed with Celtic national anthems and dancing and singing by Welsh performers

Grand Banquet

Dining at the Nationals has grown from the first banquet listed in a Program (1960) to The Grand Banquet with a separate banquet program. On occasion, luncheons have been substituted but the banquets have remained the main dining event during a National. In Toronto 1973, there was a banquet and a grand ball. Entertainment has ranged from individual artists, to groups; to nightclub style shows.

Representative guest speakers at the banquets have included:

Ivor Richard, Q.C., Permanent Representative of the UK to the UN-1976. It was at this banquet that **Benjamin R. Jones**, Chief Justice in the Pennsylvania court system was the Master of Ceremonies.

Dr. Robert Fowkes-Educator and Welsh language promoter-1983.

Prys Edwards, Chairman, Wales Tourist Board, President, URDD GOBAITH CYMRU-Welsh League of Youth.

Lindsey Evans-National Trust of Wales-1987

Dr. Eric Gwynne-Thomas-Educator/Author-1992

Howard Stringer, President CBS Broadcast Group-1993

Emrys Jenkins, Chief Executive, Arts Council of Wales-1996

The Grand Banquet at Minneapolis in 1999, with Toastmistress **Connie Holt Claypool**, presented musical selections by the Builth Wells High School Vocal Party, from Wales formed to sing in the URDD Eisteddfod. **Jonathan Jones** of the Wales Tourist Board spoke briefly on Homecoming 2000-Hireth 2000 in Wales. The Guest Speaker was **Rev. Gareth Daniel** from Merthyr Tydfil, whose unique career includes being a Baptist Minister and a senior probation officer. He used humor to make social comments in an effective way. With a wide ranging career, Gareth “remains haunted by the fear that a stranger will accost him saying ‘ You don’t remember me, do you?’ And Gareth will reply, ‘Certainly, Wormwood Scrubs, 1960,’ when he should have said, ‘Of course, Shiloh, Aberystwyth, 1954.’ ”

The Right Honorable **Lord Gordon Samuel David Parry**, Baron of Neyland was guest speaker at the 2000 Grand Banquet held in Congress Hall of the Ottawa Congress Centre. Lord Parry was born in 1925 to Reverend Thomas Lewis Parry and Anne Parry. He was educated at Pembroke County Intermediate School, Trinity College Carmarthen and at the Institute of Education, University of Liverpool. Lord Parry began his career as house master and librarian at County Secondary School in Haverfordwest (1952-1968), became warden of the Pembrokeshire Teachers Centre (1968-1978), and moved to Chairman of the Wales Tourist Board and member of the British Tourist Authority (1978-1983). He is also Chairman of Milford Leisure, Taylor Plan Services; Director of Seacon Holdings plc; President of the British Institute of Cleaning Science; Chairman of the British Cleaning Council; President of the Tidy Britain Group; Chairman of Britain in Bloom; Chairman of Clean World International; and President of Milford Docks Co. He is also President of Neyland Ladies Choir and Côr Meibion De Cymru/The South Wales Male Voice Choir. He has received Honorary Fellowships from James Cook University, Queensland, Australia; Institute of Wastes Management, Trinity College Carmarthen; University of Glamorgan; British Institute of Cleaning Science, and The Hotel and Catering and Industrial Management Association. Lord Parry is also an avid fan of rugby and football and sits as a peer in The House of Lords.

The Right Honourable **Rhodri Morgan**, AM, First Minister of the National Assembly of Wales was the guest speaker at the Grand Banquet of the San Jose 2001 National. He was born in 1939 and is a graduate of Oxford and Harvard Universities. Rhodri was elected to Parliament in 1987 where he was Chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Public Administration (1997-99). He served as Opposition Front Bench Spokesman on Energy (1988-92) and Welsh Affairs (1992-97). He was elected as the Assembly Member for Cardiff West in 1999 and was appointed as the Assembly Secretary for Economic Development & European Affairs. Rhodri Morgan was appointed First Secretary of the National Assembly in February 2000 retaining responsibility for Economic Development matters until October 2000 when the title of his office was changed to First Minister of the National Assembly. He is a member of the European Affairs Committee

and the South East Wales Regional Committee. He has been leader of the Labour Party in Wales since February 2000. Rhodri Morgan was appointed to the Privy Council in July 2000.

Two Step Process for Dining started at the 1991 Cincinnati National. Banquet tickets received in the registration packets had to be exchanged for specific table assignment tickets by those wanting to sit with friends or organizations. For those not following the procedure, a caution "It is expected that seating reservations will be honored by all attending the banquet" seemed needed. In Kansas City in 1992, seating at the banquet was by specific table assignment.

The Grand Banquet at the 1995 Harrisburg National featured a menu of Welsh dining specialties: **Appetizer**-Cream of leek soup with Carmarthen ham and croutons; **Entrée**-Navarin of Welsh lamb with oven-roasted tomatoes, caraway scented Savoy cabbage and glazed root vegetables; with **Dessert** of Filo basket filled with chocolate-&-Welsh whiskey mousse accompanied by fresh berries and crystalized [sic] daffodil petals. The program included the introduction and appearance of Executive Chef **Mark Slater** of Sir Bernard Ashley's renown Inn at Perry Cabin in St. Michael's, MD, and **John Reese**, head chef of the Harrisburg Hilton, and their assistants

The Welsh Supper in Columbus in 1998 featured a menu of Welsh selections. This was one of the few times that the Board of Trustees was introduced. Cymru a'r Byd was recognized as celebrating its 50th Anniversary and **T. Elwyn Griffiths**, its Honourary President, was recognized. **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies** recognized and presented a Plaque to **Nelson L. Llewellyn** for his service as Secretary/Executive Director of the WNGGA. The entertainment was provided by the Greater Canton Men's Chorus with soloists **James Saylor**, **Kenneth Kramer**, and **Carl Wintes** and the Edwards Family of Bethania, Wales. Tenor **Dafydd Edwards**, a frequent favorite accompanied by **Menna Edwards**, sang a program of Welsh favorites and closed with *Nessun Dorma* from *Turandot*. Soprano and harpist **Gwawr Edwards** also sang. The Greater Canton Male Voice Choir was founded in 1992 after Director **Bill Hamilton** made several trips to Wales where he had the moving experience of hearing male voice choirs.

Grand Concert

The Chairman of the Special Events Committee at the 1961 Annual General Meeting, while acknowledging that the prime purpose of the NGGA was the National Gymanfa Ganu, believed that special events, such as the concert of the previous evening by the Aberystwyth Madrigal Singers, should be added to foster Welsh fellowship and culture. Actually, concerts had been an important part of Nationals since Chicago 1933.

The first concert was a Concert by Massed Choirs on Monday Evening, September 4, 1933 at the Medina Temple in Chicago. The Massed Choirs assisting the Greater Chicago Gymanfa Choir were the St. David's Choral Society of Granite City, the Cambrian Welsh Choir of Cleveland, the Milwaukee Welsh Presbyterian Church Choir, and the Waukesha Cymric Choral Society. By special request, the combined choirs sang *Cambria's Song of Freedom*, by **T. J. Davies**, that had been sung at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. The Greater Chicago Gymanfa Choir listed 207 members (with 95 sopranos) and was assisted by 132 in the other choirs. The choirs included 50 **Jones's** and 34 **Williams's**.

The first male voice choir to perform at a National was The Cambrian Male Chorus of Cleveland that sang at the evening session of the 1933 National in Chicago.

The Morryston Orpheus Male Choir was the first choir from Wales to present a concert at a National. This was during the 1975 National in New York City. Since then, male voice choirs from Wales, with their soloists, have been major attractions at 15 Nationals. The only mixed voice choir was The Ardwyn Singers from Wales.

Three choirs from Canada and four from the United States (including the North American Choir) have performed in concert. The concerts at the 1981, 1987 and 1996 Nationals presented soloists from North America and Wales including, in 1996, the Century Singers of Utica. The only recent National not to have a concert was the 1976 in Philadelphia that presented a pageant during the Noson Lawen. (Appendix I)

Côr Meibion Llanelli, Côr Meibion Rhosllannerchrugog, Côr Cymry Gogledd America (North American Welsh Choir) and Côr Meibion De Cymru and their soloists have been selected for further exposure because of their accomplishments and programs.

CÔR MEIBION LLANELLI

Côr Meibion Llanelli, and its conductor **D. Eifion Thomas**, have made a record appearance in concert at four Nationals Vancouver 1980, Victoria 1990, Bellevue 1994 and San Jose 2001. The following articles appeared in the Program for the 1994 National.

Formed in 1964 under the baton of the late **Denver Phillips**, B.A., the choir has grown in stature and in strength to become one of the leading male choirs in Britain.

1975 was the year the choir began to show the promise and success which in earlier years had eluded them. This coincided with the appointment of current Musical Director, D. Eifion Thomas. Success in the competitive field followed in abundance with a record of seven wins at the Miner's Eisteddfod at Porthcawlm, six firsts at Cardigan, and three at Pontrydfendigaid Semi National Eisteddfods. The choir won the Corwen Choral Competition and prize of £1,000 in their first attempt in 1987.

The Llanelli Male Choir has graced the stage at many of the leading auditoria and concert halls in the land. London's Royal Albert and Festival Halls, Birmingham and Oxford Town Halls, the MacRobert Centre at Sterling, as well as Plymouth's Guild Hall, are just a few too numerous to mention. Coventry, Bury St. Edmonds, Wells Cathedral, as well as Westminster Abbey, are other venues at which the choir has given outstanding performances of great aplomb. The performances and many more have enabled the choir to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for various charitable causes.

They have traveled extensively in their short history, to Germany in 1975, 1979, 1985 and 1992. In 1980 they crossed the Atlantic for the first time, visiting Canada and North America. In 1989 was to be their first visit to France, whilst 1987 and 1990 were the years when tours to the U.S.A. were undertaken and the centres of San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Victoria, Canada visited. In June 1993, they undertook their first tour of Australia, giving concerts at Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Cairns to sell-out audiences.

Fresh from their appearance at the Brit awards, backing the Pet Shop Boys, they have appeared on countless television and radio programmes, the most recent being "Pebble Mill". Their popularity is at an all time high—a fact borne out by the outstanding sales of their latest CD and Tape, "Timeless Moment". Launched prior to Christmas 1991, it outsold all its major competition. It is planned to release a new CD and cassette in 1994, in the same vein as their gold disc record

“Pan Ddaw’r Nos”, which should be as successful. Not resting on the laurels and continuously striving for perfection in the art of choral singing, the choir looks forward to returning to America in 1994 and Australia in 1997.

Coupled with other events at home and further afield, the choir’s future is secure. With such a flourishing choral unit, the town’s motto can surely be applied to Côr Meibion Llanelli. YMLAEN LLANELLI (ONWARD LLANELLI).

The 1994 concert by the Llanelli Male Voice Choir was a unique presentation not yet matched by any other choir. The narrative included excerpts from *Gwalia Deserta VII* by **Idris Davies** (1905-1953), *A Welsh Love Letter* by **Michael Burn**, *Good-bye* by **Alun Lewis** (1915-1944), *Wild Wales* by **George Borrow** (1803-1881), *Cardiff Arms Park* by **Alun Rees**, *Wales on the Wireless*, a talk by Sir **Geraint Evans**, *Capel Hebron* by **Idris Davies**, *The Chapel* by **R. S. Thomas**, *A Peasant* by **R. S. Thomas**, from a radio interview given by author **Gwyn Thomas**, *Port Talbot* by **John Davies**, and *A Welsh Heritage* by **Peter Finch**. The excerpts were introductions for choral presentations and solos.

CÔR MEIBION RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG

Côr Meibion Rhosllannerchrugog is included because of its outstanding competitive record and, not the least, because of the challenge of its name.

The 1998 Grand Concert in Columbus saw the return of Côr Meibion Rhosllannerchrugog to Columbus where it presented during the 1986 National. The choir, under the direction of **W. Tudor Jones** and introduced by Compere **Dr. Tudor Powell**, was accompanied by **Kevin Whitley** from Wrexham. Its full program was enhanced by tenor soloist **Geraint Dodd**, selections by **Stephem Smith** on handbells, and the group CWLWM.

The Rhos Male Voice Choir, formed in 1891, has won at the Royal National Eisteddfodau of Wales seven times and Llangollen International Eisteddfod in 1995 and 1997. It won at the Glarner Music Festival in Switzerland in 1993 where 57 Male Voice Choirs, 28 Women’s Choirs, and 27 Mixed Voice Choirs competed. [I remember them well from Columbus in 1986, my first National and the one that made such a lasting impression on me.]

CÔR CYMRY GOGLEDD AMERICA

The 1999 Grand Concert in Minneapolis was the premier performance of Côr Cymry Gogledd America (North American Welsh Choir) with choir soloists sopranos **Martha Wingate Taylor** and **Gwenith Closs-Colgrove**, tenor **Danny Evan Proud**, and baritone **Larry Whyte**.

The North American Welsh Choir, the brainchild of conductor **Mari Morgan**, was over two years in the making. Since its founding especially for the 1999 National, the choristers have been rehearsing, in regional rehearsals, the international repertoire selected and commissioned by Mari Morgan. The 140-member choir, with representatives ranging in age from 14 to 80+ and from 26 States and three Canadian Provinces, came together for the first time in Minneapolis to prepare for this concert.

The Processional was Gwŷr Harlech (March of the Men of Harlech) with trumpeters **Phil Norris** and **Paul Grustans**. The concert’s program included the World Premiere of Preiddiau’r Cymry (The Welsh Host), with the poem by **Menna Elfyn** and music by **David Evan Thomas**. This work was commissioned by the North American Welsh Choir and The Schubert Club. The soloists were mezzo-soprano **Heulwyn Jones** and tenor **Paul Kawabori** from the choir. The program also included the World Premiere of Psalm 104 (Praise, my soul) by **Hilary Tann**, commissioned by the North American Welsh Choir and with trumpeters Phil Norris and Paul Grustans. The choir presented a wide variety of Welsh

hymns and anthems. The featured soloist was baritone **Jeremy Huw Williams** who gave an outstanding exhibition of his vocal talent and training.

Menna Elfyn, whose poem was used in the commissioned work *Preiddiau'r Cymry (The Welsh Host)*, has published seven volumes of poetry. She is co-director of the M.A. Creative Writing Program at Trinity College in Carmarthen, Wales. She was made a Druid of the Gorsedd of the National Eisteddfod in 1993.

David Evan Thomas, who composed the music for the commissioned work *Preiddiau'r Cymry (The Welsh Host)*, is a recipient of a McKnight Fellowship Award in Music from the American Academy/Institute of Arts and Letters. He also has received fellowships from University of Minnesota, the Eastman School of Music, and the Möller-A.G.O. Award in Choral Composition and has received degrees from Northwestern University, Eastman, and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He is the Composer-in-Residence for The Schubert Club.

Hilary Tann, composer of Psalm 104 (Praise, my Soul) was born in Ferndale, Wales and studied at the Universities of Cardiff and Southampton before being appointed a Visiting Fellow at Princeton University (Ph.D. 1981). She currently chairs the Department of Performing Arts at Union College in New York. Her work has received support from the Welsh Arts Council, Meet the composers and the NEA and her compositions have received performances in Europe, Asia, and throughout the USA. Upcoming performances in Wales include concerts for the Swansea Bach Choir and a large orchestral broadcast by the National Orchestra of Wales.

The Minneapolis National Gymanfa Committee gratefully acknowledged the gift from **Tom and Marcia Richards and Lyle and Kay Jacobson**, which was given in the memory of **Cecil M Jones**, to help support costs of the Grand Concert.

CÔR MEIBION DE CYMRU

The Grand Concert at the 69th National in Ottawa featured Côr Meibion De Cymru-The South Wales Male Voice Choir under the direction of **Dr. Haydn James**. It has been said that there are almost as many choirs in Wales as there are towns and villages but most of them are not big enough to compete for major venues. Côr Meibion De Cymru, formed in 1982, brings together voices from just about every valley and coastal plain of South, East and the West of Wales and projects them worldwide.

Dr. James, holder of degrees of B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. in Physics, has been a conductor within the London Welsh Community for an unbroken period of 30 years having conducted a ladies choir for 12 years before becoming Musical Director of the London Welsh Male Voice Choir in 1979. As a singer, he has performed on radio and television embracing a range of music from Elizabethan Madrigals to Jazz and Pop. He has conducted at the 1989, 1991, and 1995 Ontario Welsh Festivals. He has gained vast experience with massed choirs serving as conducted at four Festivals of Male Choirs ("1000 Voices") at Royal Albert Hall in 1986, 1988, 1990, and 1994.

A highlight of the concert for many was the performances of three lovely and talented home grown Canadian lady soprano soloists: Gwyneth Hughes-Penman, Shannon Mercer and Sandra Stringer.

Gwyneth Hughes-Penman is a 1992 graduate of McGill University with a Bachelor of Music Degree in Vocal Performance. In great demand as a soloist, she has appeared at the Ontario Welsh Festivals in Kingston, Ottawa, and Toronto and at Nationals in Montreal and Utica.

Shannon Mercer grew up performing at Ottawa Welsh Society functions. She is a graduate of McGill University with Bachelor of Music Honours and High Distinction in both Performance (voice) and Early Music (voice). She has performed in works of leading classical composers, has toured with La Chapelle de Quebec and Les Violons du Roy and has been accepted into the Canadian Opera Company.

Sandra Stringer grew up surrounded by music and sang with the Ottawa Welsh Choral Society. She graduated from the University of Ottawa Music school after winning the University of Ottawa Concerto Competition in 1996. She performed as Associate Artist with the Opera Lyra Ottawa and has appeared with many choirs in the Capital region, the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra, the UBS Opera Ensemble, and the UBC Symphony Orchestra. She is currently studying in the Master of Music-Opera program at the University of British Columbia.

The Grand Finale was the singing of **Michael J. Lewis'** stirring composition, *Penhriw*, by the choir and soloists and accompanied by an instrumental ensemble.

Informal Singing

One of the most unique and enjoyed features of a Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu is the informal singing of Welsh hymns that takes place through the halls and ballrooms of the hotels. In most instances, informal singing is the last event of a day's activities with participants singing, many times into the wee hours of the morning. Earlier informal singing was more informal and seemed to impart a spirit of spontaneity almost associated with pub singing. While less informal, the singing has become less haphazard in that accompanists and conductors are scheduled. For example, three conductors with accompanists were scheduled each evening in Minneapolis 1999 with starting times of 9:30 p.m. If not scheduled, there always seems to be enough volunteers available. Conductors have been known to add some instruction to the singing, stopping it when something offends their ear and not always to the pleasure or agreement of other experts in the audience. A schedule does not preclude truly informal singing and it has been known to break out in elevators and in hallways to keep people entertained or awake. In 2002 Harrisburg, directors were also provided in hotels other than the headquarters hotel. The ambiance of the atrium, extending three floors upward in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Columbus (1986 and 1998) was particularly well suited for informal singing.

Dr. Edward G. Hartmann, in his *Americans From Wales*, repeated an account that appeared in the *Milwaukee Sentinel* on September 4, 1951 after conclusion of the 1951 National Gymanfa Ganu in that city.

“Countless conventions have been held on countless Sunday nights with festive people crowding the Schroeder Hotel lobby. If they reached the singing stage by mid-night, usually in the wee hours of Monday, they progress to unprintable verses.

It was different early Monday as about 2,000 Welshmen and their wives relaxed after their national ‘Gymanfa Ganu’---song festival.

They jammed the Schroeder lobbies and sang and sang, massed in impromptu choruses. They sang with enough volume to bring stragglers in from the streets.

But where ordinary post-convention singers are fueled with fluids that help in ignoring one's flat notes, these sang without artificial stimulation. They had no flat notes to ignore.

There was another difference. There wasn't a line of 'I Want a Girl Just Like the Girl That Married Dear Old Dad' nor 'You Tell Me Your Dream'. The gay tunes were such hymns as 'Count Your Blessings' and the sad ones were not schmaltz but prayers.

A drunk weaved [sic] in from the street, untangled himself from the revolving door, and stood listening intently. 'S' beautiful', he said.

'The Night is dark, and I am far from home---'.

The drunk shivered and plunged into the revolving door again, 'Too sad. I like barber-shop myself.'

Bellhops and night clerks stood listening happily. Not only good music; nobody was any trouble. The crowd started to thin a little. A Welshman said to another: 'It's late. We'd better get some sleep.' 'We can't go now' his friend answered. 'How could you leave when there's still singing?'

Length of the National Gymanfa Ganu.

The first National with afternoon and evening sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu was in Chicago 1933. The 1933 Chicago and 1941 New Castle, PA gymanfaoedd were each for two days. In Akron (1947), the Annual meeting was held on August 30 thus carrying out the instructions given during the Annual meeting of 1946. The first four-day event was in Salt Lake City on Sept. 2-5, 1955. There were mixed three and four day events, some of the four day only having registration and a tea on Thursday. Beginning in 1984 Portland and consistently beginning with 1988 Baltimore, the National became a four-day event. In the 1990's, those arriving early on the day before, Wednesday, hoping to find time for some personal activities began to see National intrusions on their time.

Memorial Service.

There was a Memorial Service at the 1946 Association meeting in Akron for the late Treasurer **W. B. Jones** and for **John Gwyer**, publisher of the Gymanfa Ganu hymnal, and others who had passed on to their reward. This was the beginning of the Memorial Service later to become such an important part of the Sunday morning bi-lingual Church Service. In 1947, once again in Akron, **Judge David G. Jenkins** conducted a brief, but impressive, Memorial Service for members who had been called home since the last annual meeting. Lists of departed members started appearing in the Programs in 1951 and continued only for a short time being overtaken by the Memorial Service starting in 1960.

During the Annual General Meeting of Sept. 3, 1960, **Rev. Kenneth Jones** read the names of those who had passed away during the year. **Mrs. Irene Staples** placed a rose for each in a memorial bouquet and **Dr. John Hughes** offered a prayer. During the Annual General Meeting of 1965 in Pittsburgh, a rose was placed in a vase in memory of each one whose name was read as having passed away. The first time it was held as part of the Sunday Morning Church Service was at the 1974 National in Cleveland.

There have been occasions when the Memorial Service has turned into a "close run thing." An attempt to replace the rose ceremony, as being "medieval", with a moment of silence was rejected. On another occasion, someone forgot to get the roses and another time water pitchers had to serve as vases.

The 2000 Memorial Service recognized the passing of 60 Members. A glitch caused by an unfolded page of names resulted in reading the missed names during the afternoon session of the Gymanfa Ganu.

Noson Lawen

The first mention of a Noson Lawen appeared in the financial report of the New Castle, PA 1941 venue committee on the collection, during the Noson Lawen, of \$358.63 for the Welsh Section of the British War Relief Fund. The Program for the 1952 National in Columbus announced that an admission fee of \$.75 would be charged for the Noson Lawen.

Rev. Hedd-Wyn M. Williams described the Noson Lawen in the Program for the 28th National Gymanfa Ganu in Toronto.

“The English translation—(“a merry evening”) does not convey the nostalgic connotation that the Welsh term Noson Lawen holds for the Brython. It transposes him to a Chapel vestry or a public hall in Cwm Hiraeth, Gwalia where the folk have gathered together to participate in an informal evening of song and verse.

One never ceases to be amazed at the wealth of talent the “cwm” or “bro” can so abundantly offer. The institution is an integral part of the Welsh rural life and culture.

The outbreak of hostilities in 1939 brought about a great resurgence of interest and concern for the institution throughout the Principality. Small parties, of a dozen or more in number, comprising of local talent, were organized and many of them distinguished themselves upon the stages of the most famous theatres, the Albert Hall, London, and on the radio network of the British Broadcasting Corporation. Such names as “**Hogia’r Gogledd**”, “**Bois y Coleg**”, “**Parti’r Fren!**” and many others became household words.

To those who have had the privilege of attending the National Eisteddfod, the Noson Lawen has been one of the most memorable evenings in their lives. The wholesome humor and ready wit of the master of ceremonies and the spontaneous response of the various performers to appear on the stage at the bidding of the conductor, and the “naws”[feeling]—environment thus created by such an extemporaneous performance belongs to ‘the never to be forgotten’ experience of life.

...Come enjoy the variety of outstanding talent that we have to present, and be prepared to participate in the lusty singing of Caneuon Gerwin Gwalia Annwyl in a fraternal fellowship with your compatriots.”

The Noson Lawen was described in the 1990 Victoria National Program as “having its roots in rural Wales. It gained momentum in the 19th Century when communities met to enjoy the informal and spontaneous entertainment it provided. The venue was usually a barn provided by a benevolent farmer. Families, eager with anticipation, would arrive from the outlying farms determined to enjoy and participate in the great feast of humor, dancing, and singing which characterized a ‘noson’. The success of the evening would depend on the willingness of the people to participate and the ability of the leader to create the atmosphere of happiness.”

A sampling of the Noson Lawen at selected Nationals indicates the range and diversity of the entertainment provided. One nice thing, different from some amateur hours, there is no threat of the hook.

Ex-Governor of Pennsylvania Hon. **Arthur M. James** was master of ceremonies at the Noson Lawen held on Saturday evening during the 1953 National in Rochester.

The program for the Noson Lawen in Philadelphia on Sept. 4, 1954 seemed to present a more formalized approach to a Noson Lawen with Master of Ceremonies being **Dr. Elfan Rees** from Geneva, Switzerland. The Noson Lawen started with the National Anthem followed with presentations by the Philadelphia Gymanfa Ganu Chorus, selections by tenor soloist **Brent Williams** of New York, and folk songs by the audience led by **E. J. Hughes**, Caernarvon Wales. Contralto solos by **Margaret Evans Middlecamp** of Toronto, stories of humorist **John D. Edwards** of Wyoming, PA, presentations by

the Utica Comedy Trio, an offering; folk songs, and solos by bass soloist **John Ffestyn Jenkins**, Boston rounded out the program. The closing with *America* and *God Save the Queen* ended a spectacular evening's entertainment.

The 1988 Noson Lawen was the first to have an imported host or compere, **Robin Jones**, and the Program carried the words of the popular folk songs *Bugeilio'r Gwenith Gwyn*, *Oes Gafu Eto*, *Ble Mae Daniel?*, *Myfanwy*, and *Ar Hyd Y Nos*.

Entertainment at the 1989 Noson Lawen included **Robert Bodycombe**, a frequent soloist at past gymnafoedd, recitations by **Joan Owen-Mandry**, The Red Dragon Dancers, **David Price-Gresty**, **Mrs. Winston Churchill**, **Yvonne Evans**, MABSANT with **Dafydd Iawn**, and harpist **Jay Ansill**.

The 1990 Noson Lawen in Victoria benefited from the leadership of two "veterans of 'Noson Lawen'" WNGGA Trustee **Rev. Hedd-Wyn Williams** and recently elected WNGGA Trustee **Rev. Dr. R. Cerwyn Davies**. Both Williams and Davies are members of the Gorsedd y Beirdd (circle of Welsh bards) with Davies especially honored with the white robes.

The 1998 Noson Lawen included participants: the Ohio State University Men's Glee Club, soprano **Amy Garver**, tenor **Robert O'Brien**, Welsh recitations and poetry with Joan **Owen-Mandry**, sing along with accordionist **Lloyd Savage**, the Cymru Orchestra and Soloists, Story teller **Bill Parry**, soprano **Colleen Kennedy** (co-winner at the 1997 Eisteddfod in Milwaukee), harpist **Gwawr Edwards**, folk song group CWLWM. Each participant presented at least one Welsh related or Welsh language item. The James Lambert Singers presented a free concert following the Noson Lawen.

The Ohio State University Men's Glee Club was organized in 1875. In 1990, they participated in the International Musical Eisteddfod in Llangollen where they won the male chorus competition by an unprecedented 20 points. In a unanimous decision by nine adjudicators, they were proclaimed the "Choir of the World" the first male chorus to receive this honor.

The Cymru Orchestra is a creation of **John William Jones**, Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Gettysburg College in PA. He is a published composer who has received many commissions for wind band, jazz ensemble, and chamber winds. The James Lambert Singers from North Wales was under the direction of **Mair Evans**, well known in Columbus, having lived and taught in the Columbus area as a Fulbright teacher in music.

A Folk Concert and Twmpath was held at the 1999 National in Minneapolis in place of a Noson Lawen. The Folk Concert featured harpist **Catherine Salovich Victorson** and IONA. Catherine, from the faculty of Hamline University of St. Paul, holds two degrees in harp performance (BM from Boston University and MM from University of Minnesota) and seven years as solo harpist for the Regensburg Philharmonic Orchestra of Regensburg, Germany. IONA, is a group specializing in music of the Celtic Nations (Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, Isle of Man, and Brittany) and Galicia. IONA was founded by vocalist **Barbara Tresidder Ryan**, who also plays the Irish drum and a Celtic bouzouki, and **Bernard Argent**, who moves from a tin whistle to a wooden flute and also a doumbek and occasionally a guitar. They are joined by piper **Robert Mitchell** who also plays the subtler shuttle pipes. The TWMPATH, a Welsh barn dance, was led by callers **Siân Frick** of Delaware and **Laurel Bradshaw** of Minneapolis, both certified Welsh Folk Dance Society instructors.

The 2000 Noson Lawen was traditional with more of an informal appearance. The scheduled performances including: The Ottawa Welsh Society Choral Society, Merched Gwalia, story teller **Ellis J. Jones**, Members of Côr Meibion De Cymru, **Colleen Kennedy**, **John Griffiths**, **Jeanette Hudson**, **Geraint Wilkes**, and **Jaime McCormick** were less spontaneous.

The Program

The Program, capital P, is the published document that provides all the information regarding a Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. At that first Gymanfa Ganu in 1929, there was a song sheet titled SACRED SONG FESTIVAL (CY-MANFA GANU), Niagara Falls, NY, Sept 1 1929 Auspices St. David's Society, Youngstown, Ohio. This was two mimeographed sheets, four sides, containing the words, no music, to 17 hymns. The absence of music may well mean that all the hymns were so well known and the singers so used to singing without music that it just was not needed. A more practical reason for the lack of music may well have been the difficulty of providing it. Remember, in 1929 there were no copying machines that make it so easy to copy pages of today's *Welsh and English Hymns and Anthems (Reformatted)* published by the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. The 1929 Program listed Diadem, Adeste Fideles (Oh Come, All Ye Faithful), Cwm Rhondda, Maesgwyn, Bryn Calfaria, Aberystwyth, Dies Irae, Crug-Y-Bar, Send Thy Spirit (Alexander) (Ebenezer-Tôn-y-Botel) Tanymarian, Babel, Andalusia, Huddersfield, Sandon, Hyfrydol, Eventide, and Rachie. Of the above listed hymns, only Adeste Fideles and Eventide are not listed in today's hymnal. The most favored hymns as compiled from all the Nationals to date are listed in Appendix I.

The Program has grown over the years. With rare exceptions, the standard Program has been a 5 ½ x 8 ½ booklet. The one exception was the 1990 Program for the Victoria National that measured 8 x 10 ¾.

The first Program to attain the stature of a Program was that for the first two-day event, the 1933 National in Chicago. The heavier weight paper cover inclosed 48 bond paper pages. This Program listed the Sunday schedule that, for the first time, included afternoon and evening sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu and a Monday evening concert. The Program for the Fifth listed **Geo. D. Rees** of Chicago as President, 19 Vice Presidents, and **Ellis Hughes** of Niagara Falls, NY and **W. B. Jones** of Pittsburgh as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. It also listed 38 member organizations (including one from Hamilton, Ont. and one from Vancouver, BC) of the NGGA representing over 10,000 Welsh primarily in the United States. There were pictures of the principals. Thirty-one pages of hymns, with words and music, could be considered the first hymnal of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association. Five pages of advertising closed out the 1933 Program.

As a contrast, the Columbus 1998 Program for the 67th Annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu was a 90 page document, including its covers, and carried 39 advertisements. There were no hymns or music. It had 18 pictures and informative biographical sketches on the participants. It contained a large amount of information items including synopses of the available seminars and tours and a brief history of the sponsoring organization, the Welsh Society of Central Ohio. Its summary description of the main events during the four-day gathering was helpful. It had nine pages of memorial and other contributions and rightfully described a major sponsorship donation, the largest ever received by the WNGGA.

The 1998 Program continued its informational mission with sidebars providing interesting tidbits on Wales. The leaning tower of Caerphilly Castle, caused by English canon {sic} fire, leans at a greater angle than that of the leaning tower of Pisa. The massive blue prescelli stones at Stonehenge were brought from Wales, but no one knows how. Wales is approximately the size of Indiana and its population is approximately 3,000,000. St. David (Dewi Sant) is the Patron Saint of Wales and March 1, the date of his death, is a National Holiday. The Welsh national emblems are the Daffodil and the Leek and The Welsh National Anthem was first sung in public in 1856. Rugby is its National Sport. Welsh (Cymraeg) is the oldest language in Europe. Cardiff (Caerdydd) is one of the youngest capital cities in Europe. Wales has more castles

per square mile than any country in the world. There 400+ castles with over 100 open to the public. Conwy, Caernarfon, Beaumaris, and Harlech castles are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Program advertising provides a source of income as well as information. The 1999 Minneapolis Program that featured a large musical note emblazoned with a Red Dragon encircled with the words “MINNESOTA Land of 10,000 lakes...& songs!” included ads on:

Teatime Tours to Wales

A Welsh Heritage Week, a week-long Celebration of Welsh Culture, Heritage & Language on its 2002 tour to Wales.

Best Wishes from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN

The Tenth Annual Little Welsh Festival in Fredricksburg, VA

Announcement of the Celtic Festival Barbados 2000.

The National Welsh-American Foundation

The two North American Welsh Newspapers-Y Drych (The Mirror) and Ninnau (“us” or “we also”).

Wales Tourist Board

How to order CD or Cassette recordings of the Sunday Sessions of the Gymanfa

CROESO! from the Madog Center for Welsh Studies at the University Rio Grande, Rio Grande, OH.

CURIAD-Wales Premier Music Publishers.

Jones Metal Products in loving memory of CECIL H. JONES

The Harp and Dragon-Welsh crafts, books, music and Celtic jewelry

A wide range of artistic talent and imagination is displayed on Program covers depicting various introductory interpretations of a Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu.

Registration

It is difficult to determine when the first pre-registration for a National occurred and it is not that important. The first registration fee, that of \$1.00, was levied for the Rochester National of 1953. From the beginning, pre-registration was performed by the local venue committee. It evolved into a very sophisticated process that covered all of the activities scheduled for a National. Space was provided for membership, contributions and memorials. Prepayment by check, later to be extended to payment by credit card, constituted a form of reservation. In the late 1990’s, sophistication reached the point of the local committee providing confirmations for all registrations. Upon arrival at the National, individuals were issued registration packets that contained all of their registration forms, name tags, tickets and the Program. In later years, dinner tickets could be exchanged for specific table sittings.

One of the disadvantages of local registration was the “re-inventing the wheel” syndrome that occurred in developing hand or computer registration processes. This led to an early International Headquarters assumption of responsibility for registration and standardization of the process. Centralization relieved the local committee of the workload associated with registration packet preparation and responsibility for operation of the registration tables. Volunteer help was still needed and provided by the local venue committee who also assisted in on site registration. The following report on registrations illustrates the ebb and flow of registered attendance.

1959	Toronto	2,678	1971	Salt Lake City	N/A
1960	Pittsburgh (R)	627	1972	Chicago	2,064
1960	San Francisco	N/A	1973	Toronto	1,655
1961	Chicago	2,674	1974	Cleveland (R)	460
1962	Utica	2,188	1975	New York	1,588
1963	Detroit	1,540	1976	Philadelphia	1,295

1964	Philadelphia	1,043	1976	San Francisco(R)	270
1965	Pittsburgh	1,387	1977	Ottawa	1,750
1966	Cleveland	703 (R)	1978	Minneapolis	1,500
1966	Los Angeles	1,230	1979	Niagara Falls,NY	1,539
1967	Toronto	1,806	1980	Vancouver	947
1968	Buffalo	1,049	1981	Utica	N/A
1969	Cleveland	1,080	1982	Toronto	1,574
1970	Milwaukee	1,727	1983	Wilkes-Barre	3,281
			1984	Portland	979

Seminars

Seminars were listed for Friday and Saturday in the Program for the Minneapolis 1978 National. These were advertised as a “new event” added to the National Gymanfa Ganu. Friday seminars included: “ The Legend of Prince Madog” by **Rev. Neal Lloyd**; “Gaudy Welsh Pottery” by **Cheryl Nelson and Harry Watts**; “Welsh Cooking” by **Alice Ann Jones, Laura Walters, and Shelly Price**; and “Basic Welsh for Traveler’s in Wales by **The Rev. Gwyn Walters**. Saturday seminars were “Travel In Wales” by **Marion Carr**, “Welsh Folk Dancing” and “Patagonia-The Welsh of South America.

Since then, seminar programs have included a wide range of informational and instructional presentations. Seminar presenters do so on a fee basis while others donate their time and fees as a service for those attending a National. The 34 seminars in Columbus 1998.were presented by 12 native Welshmen and 2 native Welshwomen; 13 by Ph. D’s, 1 by an M.D. and 1 by a J.D. Continued Education Unit credits (CEUs) were offered to untenured teachers.

There were two other unusual events in Columbus: a Welsh Politics Round Table Discussion Luncheon and Lunch With the Author. The Lunch With The Author presented an opportunity to meet with internationally renowned author **Sharon Kay Penman** who writes of 12th and 13th century Wales. She has a BA in History from the University of Texas and a J.D. from the Rutgers School of Law. She was also available in the Welsh Marketplace to autograph her Welsh Trilogy: *Here Be Dragons*, *Falls the Shadow*, and *The Reckoning*.

The 37 seminars scheduled in Minneapolis in 1999 are listed to show the range of educational subjects and the geographical dispersion of the presenters. Photos and short biographies of the seminar leaders were included in the Program. The multiple subjects of presenters **Tecwyn Vaughan Jones, Beth Phillips Brown, Rev. Katherine Campbell, Henry Davies Jones, Trilby Angharad Busch, Meirwyn Walters, Bill Jones, Eluned Jones, and John Ellis** should also be noted.

Homecoming 2000/Hireath 2000-Staff of Wales Tourist Board including **Jonathan Jones**.
The Challenge of Change on the state of churches in Wales by **Rev. Eddie Morgan**, Llanelli, Wales.
Gaudy Welsh China by **Howard Williams**, Arden Hills, MN.
Folk Customs in Welsh Communities by **Tecwyn Vaughan Jones**, Director of Celtica. Machynlleth, Wales.
An Anglo-Welsh Identity-The Poetry of Raymond Garlick by **Dr. Megan Lloyd**, Kingston, PA
Welsh Quilts and Their Stories by **Jen Jones**, Llanybydder, Wales
A Celtic Folk Tale by **Beth Phillips Brown**, Media, PA
Clues to Help Solve Your Family Mystery by **Donelle Meyer**, Ames Iowa genealogist.
Finding the Real Wales by **Tecwyn Vaughan Jones**
Who Are the Celts: 2500 Years of History by **Rev. Kathryn Campbell**, Charles City, IA.

Picks and Pens by **Bill Jones** University of Wales, Cardiff
 Owain Glyndwr (The Greatest of Welshmen) by **Henry Jones Davies**, Publisher & editor-in-chief on Cambria magazine.
 Celtic and Native American Spirituality by **Dr. Lincoln Jones Hartford**, New Lisbon, WI.
 Welsh Spiritual Designs for Quilting by **Martha Waterman** of Cedar Rapids, IA and **Sally Huffman**, Carrollton, TX
 Welsh for Beginners by native Welsh speaker **Gail Baker** of Omaha, NB
 The Invention of Welsh Tradition by **Trilby Angharad Busch** of Minneapolis, MN
 Ysgol Gân: Sopranos and Altos-Part Singing by **Meirwyn Walters** of South Hamilton, MA
 Wild Wales by **Paul Loveluck**, Chief Executive, Countryside Council for Wales.
 Glimpses of the Mirror (Drych) by **Bill Jones**, Cardiff, Wales
 Demystifying Morfydd by **Rhian Davies**, Cardiff Bay, Wales.
 Folk Dancing for Beginners by **Siân Frick** of Newark, DE
 Wales Today by **Eluned Jones** of Blacksburg, VA
 The Celtic Spirit and the Modern World by **Rev. Kathryn Campbell** of Charles City, IA
 Ysgol Gân: Tenors and Basses-Part Singing by **Meirwyn Walters** of South Hamilton, MA
 Welsh Mythology by **Trilby Angharad Busch** of Minneapolis, MN
 King Arthur: Once and Future Mystery by **Rev. Kathryn Campbell** of Charles City, IA
 History of Calvinist Methodism by **Jay Williams, III** of Utica, NY
 The Prince and the Principality by **John Ellis** of Whitehall, NY
 Singing Welsh Folksongs by **Eluned Jones** of Blacksburg, VA
 Stories of Welsh Gypsies by **Beth Phillips Brown** of Media, PA
 The Pleasures of Afternoon Tea by **Linda Ashley Leamer** of St. Paul, MN
 Welsh Settlers and the Sioux Uprising by **Howard Davies** of Minneapolis, MN
 The Works of Welsh Poets by **Dr. Candace Clayton** of St. Paul, MN
 Embracing Welsh Heritage and Fashioning the Future, a panel discussion moderated by **Eluned Jones** of Blacksburg, VA
 The Longbow: Wales' Stealth Weapon by **Henry Jones Davies**, Editor of Cambria Magazine of Carmarthen, Wales.
 Welsh Music: Welsh Whistle Stop! By **Rhian Davies** of Cardiff Bay, Wales.
 A Pacific People, a Martial Race by **John Ellis**, Whitehall, NY

There was a full range of seminars at the 2003 Richmond North American Festival of Wales. New topics included *Welsh Saints* by **Terry Breverton** from Wales and *Diamonds of the North* with **Grenville Thomas**, a West Glamorgan coal miner telling of his discovery of diamonds in northern latitudes of Canada. Terry Breverton balanced his seminar on *Welsh Saints* (St. Elvis and St. David) with one on *Famous Welsh Pirates* introducing all to **Henry Morgan, Howel Davis, and Black Bart (Bartholomew) Roberts**. In *Corgis, Corgis, Corgis*, listeners learned of Cardigan Corgis from **Murielle Simpson-Ball** and Pembrokshire Corgis from **Roma Stewart**. In *King Copper*, **Ronald Rees** recalled the challenges during the 18th and 19th centuries when the Swansea area of Wales “produced virtually all of the world’s copper.” **Dr. Geoffrey Madoc-Jones and Rufus Adams** exposed the lives of **Dylan Thomas** and **David Lloyd-George** in *Dylan Thomas in North America* and *David Lloyd-George*. Both were famous for different reasons and from two different worlds in Wales

Tours

The first scheduled tours appeared in the Program for the Salt Lake City National of 1949. The tours covered Salt Lake City, Big Cottonwood Canyon and an optional 10,000 foot chair ski-lift ride. There was a Monday visit to the Utah Copper Mine. A tour of the McKinley Memorial was part of the 1950 National in Canton, OH.

Tours have proven very popular and a suggestion to discontinue tours met strong objections. Only a sampling of recent tours can be listed, however, they show interests in the local areas that proved to be well attended.

Independence, MO and the Truman Library and Gravesite
Coal Mine and Anthracite Mine Museum near Scranton
Mount Rainier, WA
The Gettysburg Battlefield, PA
Chocolate City, Hershey, PA
Architect Frank Lloyd Wright in and around Milwaukee
The US Air Force Museum in Dayton, OH
Longwood Gardens and Brandywine, PA
Multicultural Vancouver including the second largest Chinatown in North America, Stevenston Fishing Village, and the 106 year old Gulf of Georgia Cannery Museum.

Welcomes

Welcoming messages are an important part of the National Programs in that they contain expressions of official government recognition that a Welsh cultural event is taking place in their area. For many, this is probably their first awareness that there is a significant number of their constituents with Welsh ancestry who are organized to the extent to be able to arrange an event attracting many to their areas. Welcomes are received from a wide range of governmental figures including mayors, governors, governors general, prime ministers, premiers, presidents, and members of the royalty.

The first welcome message with photo was, appropriately, that of Welsh-American **James A. Rhodes**, Mayor of Columbus when the 1952 National visited his city. James A. Rhodes repeated his welcome in 1969 as Governor of Ohio when the National was held in Cleveland.

The first repeat governor's welcome was that of **J. Bracken Lee** of Utah for the Salt Lake City Nationals of 1949, 1955 and 1971.

An American of Welsh descent, Pennsylvania Governor William W. Scranton extended his greetings and welcome to Pennsylvania for the 1964 National.

Washington Lt. Governor **Joel Pritchard** expressed pride in his Welsh heritage when he welcomed the National Gymanfa Ganu to Bellevue in 1994

Welcomes from Canadian Prime Minister **John G. Diefenbaker**, Ontario Prime Minister **Leslie M. Frost** and Toronto Mayor **Nathan Phillips** were included in the 1959 Program.

The first member of royalty to send his welcome was the Earl of Snowdon (**Anthony Armstrong-Jones**) in 1966 followed by **Charles**, Prince of Wales in 1978, 1981, 1987, 1991 and 1996.

Welcomes from officials in Wales include The **Rt. Hon. John Morris**, Q.C., M.P., Secretary of State for Wales in 1975; **Wyn Roberts**, M.P., Minister of State Wales 1994; **The Hon. Timothy Davies**, Lord Mayor of Cardiff in 1995 and, in 2000, 2001 and 2003, **Rt. Hon. Rhodri Morgan** AM, First Minister of the National Assembly for Wales.

The first President of the United States to send his greetings was **Richard M Nixon** in 1970 followed by **Gerald R. Ford** in 1976. President **Ronald Reagan** leads the way with his greetings in 1981, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987 and 1988.

In 1998, the lady team of venue co-chairs for the Columbus National, **Mary Ellen Morgan** and **Marietta Riggs-Schumann**, continued on a roll with a welcoming letter from the First Lady of Ohio **Janet Voinovich**, wife of the Governor.

The first Welsh opera super star to send greetings was bass-baritone **Bryn Terfel** for the 2001 Program in San Jose.

Welsh Market Place

The Welsh Market Place has grown to become one of the most popular attractions at the Nationals. For those not previously active in Welsh activities, the Welsh Market Place, with its variety of Welsh souvenirs, gift items and clothing, comes as a revelation. There is always a bustle of activity and the adjoining tearoom with its Welsh cakes provides a welcomed sit down and opportunity for talk with friends.

The Program for the 1981 National in Utica listed “Welsh Gifts & Import Bwthyn (Booths) in the Westminster Church. While not the first Welsh market place, it seems that the idea of a retail source for Welsh items originated in Utica.

The first mention of a Welsh Market Place in those words was in the Program for the 1983 National in Wilkes-Barre. The Program for the 1984 National in Portland listed Welsh Sales Tables. The Program for 1988 in Baltimore identified the various booths in the Marketplace and listed their occupants:

- Wales Tourist Board
- Winsor Grimes, South Wales Artist
- Craig Herron-Castell Craig
- National Welsh-American Foundation
- Celtic Photos and Crafts
- St. David’s Welsh-American Society of Washington, DC
- Ifan’s Dragon
- NINNAU
- The Harp and the Dragon
- Hendygywn, Ltd.
- Côr Rehoboth Cymraeg
- WNGGA
- WAY
- Siani Flewog
- Y DRYCH
- The Welsh Dragon
- The St. David’s Welsh-American Society of Baltimore.

The Program for the 1995 National in Harrisburg listed 25 exhibitors: retail (13), informational (3) and organizational (9).

APPENDIX H

OTHER WNGGA ACTIVITIES

Scholarships and Grants

Since its inception in 1984, the WNGGA Scholarship/Grants Program has distributed over \$100,000 in support of the Welsh Community of North America. Its support of Welsh language training, through the courses of Cymdeithas Madog and the North American Harp Society (Welsh Heritage Week), has extended its reach to many others. The WNGGA grants program was an original supporter of the founding of the North American Association for the Study of Welsh Culture and History (NAASWCH) and continues to support these academic studies and presentations.

The Board of Trustees, at a meeting of Friday, 2 Sept 1983, established the WNGGA Scholarship Program that was soon expanded to include groups or organizations. Paul Stevens, Chair, David Thomas, and Lewis Edwards were the first committee to administer the program. Motions carried to make all funds, available from previous year's income of the endowment fund, available for scholarships with the amount to be governed by the amount available.

The guidelines for the scholarship program, supported by the proceeds of the endowment fund, were approved at the 1983 board meeting in Wilkes-Barre. The guidelines defined the purpose of the scholarship as providing financial support and encouragement to persons of Welsh lineage pursuing educational studies related to the purpose of WNGGA.

The program was administered by a committee of three appointed by the WNGGA President. The 2001 Constitution specifies that "The Committee shall consist of a Chair and two anonymous judges both being appointed by the Chair." The scholarship/grants committee chairs have been:

Paul E. Stevens, Esq.,

Nancy Miller

Dr. Phillips G. Davies

1997- Myfanwy S. Davies

Eligible recipients must be of Welsh lineage, a citizen of the United States or Canada, and be a member of the WNGGA, or a relative of a member, or a member of WAY. All three of the conditions must be met. The rules required applicants to provide financial statements and budgets, reference letters for individual requests and incorporation or by-law documents for groups or organizations. A new requirement was added that an applicant may only be a recipient for two consecutive years unless the committee feels that an emergency situation exists. A candidate may apply again after a 2 year waiting period. Another added provision was the withholding of 10% of the award pending completion of the project or study and receipt of a completion report. A motion that the scholarship fund be named the Dave Edwards Memorial failed because of thoughts that it would establish a precedent.

The first four scholarships, totaling \$2,400, were awarded in 1984 even though the Chairman reported that only \$85 was received in contributions to the Endowment Fund in fiscal 1983-84.

Margaret Rees-\$1,000. Winner of the 1983 International Singer of the Year at the International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales will concert tour Wales beginning in October 1984 under the auspices of the Welsh Arts Council

Pamela Ann Kneller-\$500. Pamela has been accepted for enrollment in Coleg Harlech, the first American accepted in over ten years. While there, she will use the award to fund research and collect material for a slide presentation and lecture in Oneida County, NY.

Maia Richards-\$500. Maia will use the scholarship to attend Welsh Heritage Week at Keuka College, NY for intensive study of Welsh.

Megan Sue Lloyd-\$400. **Megan has been accepted to study Welsh literature, Welsh, and Welsh history at University College of Wales in Aberystwyth**

There is only space for a sampling of later awards; however, they provide a firm indication of the variety of worthwhile efforts benefiting from the WNGGA Scholarship Program.

Richard Glynn Lloyd-\$1,625. Lloyd holds a BA, BM and Master of Music Degrees and is a teacher, composer and performer. He intends to use his scholarship to create a multi-media music arrangement "Standing Stones" centered around standing stones found in Wales.

Elinor Hughes-\$500. Elinor is an 11 year old student of the Welsh language who spent her scholarship and savings to travel to Wales for a Welsh language course for students in her age group.

Gary Evans-\$500. Gary, Professor of Music at Ferrum College in Virginia will use his scholarship to develop an article titled "Welsh Penillion: An Art of Nationhood".

Meredith Roberts-\$1,000-Research in Wales for teaching Welsh subjects in the US.

Winnipeg St. David's Society-A renewed second grant of \$500 to help produce a concert of the music of Morfydd Owen in conjunction with the Pan-American Games.

Ronald John Hume-\$1,000-to assist in travel to Wales for research for his Ph. D. thesis on novels of the Rhondda Valley authors **Lewis Jones** and **Gwyn Thomas**.

Green Mountain College-\$1,000 to help set up a Welsh-American Rugby Program.

Elizabeth Ann Powell-\$500 a small portion of her costs studying in Wales for an MA in Social Anthropology concentrating on Welsh culture and history.

Bala Pioneer Heritage Society in Kansas-\$1,000 to help restore the Bala Presbyterian Church to be a focal point for a new lease of life of this former Welsh settlement.

Arlie Prokop-\$1,000. Currently in Wales researching Welsh hymnody to present dissertations to American audiences.

St. David's Society of Slate Belt-\$2,000 to help defray costs of Bangor Area High School Welsh Fusiliers Band participation at Ottawa National.

Karen Jones Wojahn-\$712 to help her to attend classes on the Welsh triple harp.

Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin-\$712 to assist in travel costs of Dr. Dulais Rhys to visit Milwaukee to talk on Dr. Joseph Parry.

The 1999 Scholarship/Grants action is an example of how the application process works. As usual, ads on the 1999 scholarship program were carried in Ninnau and Y Drych. There were 17 inquiries resulting in six applications: two from individuals and four from groups. A total of \$12,921 [\$6,030 carry over from 1998 and \$6,891 for 1999] was available from Endowment Fund interest for scholarships/grants. Awards totaled \$4,750.

Welsh American Youth

Establishment, growth and problems. Establishment of Welsh American Youth (WAY) was first suggested by a Milwaukee group and organized there at the 1970 National. The Board of Trustees at a 1975 meeting rejected a suggestion

that the name be changed to Welsh American Youth Canada and United States (WAYCUS) to reflect Canadian youth. However, WAYCUS was the name displayed in 1978 Program at Minneapolis.

The basic problem was conceptual. There was always a desire to impart a sense of independence to the members of WAY, leaving it up to their officers and members to run the organization and to develop their activities. There was a lack of leadership and management ability that should have been expected. There always seemed to be the difficulty of achieving a balance between desired autonomy and needed advice. Examples were a lost check and checks not cashed and failures in communication, maintaining records of membership and reporting to the Board. Additional problems were the result of conflicting demands of school and college schedules and the National's schedule and dispersal of membership. Suggestions that WAY arrange their own summer event for a suitable age group, using facilities of colleges or universities with attendees paying their way and with support from the WNGGA, never came about.

Because of age, there was also an unspoken question as to the qualification and experience of WAY leadership to run the organization. This was recognized by the occasional and not really successful appointment of advisors from the board of trustees who were to advise but not really interfere. However, another part of the problem was the distant and never stated lack of direct interest and participation by the board of trustees because of the feeling of not wanting to interfere.

The problems with WAY were not caused by the lack of financial resources. One more experienced WAY officer said, "Money is not the problem." **Meirwyn Walters**, when asked in 1994 to chair WAY, declined stating that "the problem was more serious than selecting officers" and agreed to chair a committee to study future involvement of our youth.

There were some successful events. One of the highlights of the 1988 National in Baltimore was the performance of a young **Bryn Terfel** at the WAY luncheon and during the concert. His performance definitely marked him for the greatness he has achieved. Welsh folk dancing was first introduced in Columbus 1986 when members of the Welsh Country Dancers of Columbus demonstrated portions of their repertoire. From time to time, Welsh folk dancing exhibitions were included in schedules at the Nationals.

Closer ties of WAY to the parent organization was a special agenda item for Victoria (1990). This did not prevent the WAY president reporting operations suspended in 1993 because of little interest and the comment of a trustee that the Board did not seem to be addressing the problems of WAY. An adopted motion in 1995 to place WAY assets in an account in the national treasury was not implemented for some years.

At the Sept 3, 1999 BOT meeting, WAY President **Carolyn Kearney** offered the following suggestions relative to WAY:

Work out procedures for WAY to become an affiliate or WNGGA

WAY's financial assets be housed (assume this means become an account) at the WNGGA Headquarters.

A member of the WNGGA Board sit on the WAY Board with a vote and that WAY be represented on the local venue committee.

WAY would like to see a passing of the medallion that recognizes the passing of WAY to the next venue.

Discussions of the many problems with WAY during the 2002 mid-year meeting of the board of trustees resulted in the decision to end operations as of 31 August 2002. A Youth Initiative Committee was formed to address the problems WAY faced and recommend courses of action to make the youth program more effective. Among the recommendations were:

Establish a subsidiary group called the WNGGA Youth Association as a separate entity within and an integral part of the WNGGA with program, activities and financial commitments subject to approval of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

Membership in the WNGGA Youth Association for anyone up to and including 30 years of age of Welsh descent or in sympathy with the basic objectives of the WNGGA.

That there be separate individual dues for WNGGA Youth Association collected by the WNGGA International Headquarters and maintained in a separate account with amount of dues to be recommended by the Youth Association subject to approval of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

The WNGGA Youth Association will be empowered to schedule events at the Nationals and elsewhere subject to final approval of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

The WNGGA Constitution be amended to incorporate this subsidiary organization with final approval at the WNGGA Annual General Meeting.

The President of WNGGA Youth Association or designee will serve on the WNGGA Board of Trustees with a vote.

WNGGA membership, at the 2002 Annual General Membership meeting, approved a proposed amendment to the Constitution establishing the Youth Initiative Committee (YIC). The YIC would be under the aegis of the WNGGA and replace WAY.

A check for \$15,432.98, residue in the WAY checking account, was presented to the WNGGA on behalf of the remaining members of WAY. The presentation stipulated that the money be used to provide support and guidance described in the new amendment to the Constitution.

Welsh Roundtable

The Annual Welsh Roundtable evolved from an informal gathering of representatives from North American Welsh organizations in Pittsburgh at the 1989. The WNGGA assumed responsibility for arranging the breakfast meetings held during the Nationals. The meetings provide an opportunity for attendees to discuss common interests, exchange program ideas and describe membership growth techniques. On occasion, the group discusses subjects suggested by the WNGGA as a means of gaining new ideas leading to problem solving. In recent years, the Roundtable became a meeting of Associated Welsh Organizations, those organizational members of the WNGGA. In 2000, the meeting schedule was changed to alternate years.

APPENDIX I

PUBLICATIONS

Welsh National Library of America

During the 1950 meeting in Canton, OH, **Hammond P. Williams**, of California, reported on a proposed Welsh National Library of America and the collection of Welsh books and books about Wales and Welshmen. This would mean securing a recognized university as a repository for the books. A committee, chaired by Williams was authorized to begin work on this project.

At the Sept 5, 1953 meeting in Rochester a detailed written report was received from Professor **Hywl C. Rowland**, Chairman of Committee on the Welsh National Library of America. [As often happens, there seemed to be a lot of confusion and cross workings relative to the library.] Rowland reported that the copy of Ellis Pugh's *Annerch I'r* on hand at Brigham Young University (BYU) at Provo "is a real treasure" and cited facts found on his visit to the Welsh National Library at Aberystwyth. A suggestion of **Prof. T. Earl Pardee** of BYU, now an official member of the committee, that a committee of distinguished Welshmen be appointed to cooperate with NGGA committee was rejected although no one in Wales was actually approached on the subject. Rowland went on to report "other aspects of what seems to be the same story, about which there is much mystery." He reminded all that earlier this year he had mentioned a "cryptic" statement, made by **Ann Davies Thomas**, Secretary-Treasurer of the NGGA library committee, "mentioning a movement to be undertaken in Wales to launch a drive in Wales for a large sum of money to establish a Welsh National Library in America." Rowland reported that "Immediately I questioned the feasibility of this, also its wisdom." For he had "not seen the original article which was the basis of our rather sketchy knowledge of this matter." No one seems to have known where this article originated and for what purpose. "With the present severe restrictions on currency, it would be impossible to get so much money to America; besides, people over here think we in the United States should be sending our surplus wealth to them. Anyhow, it seems to be a wild 'pipe dream' and one cannot think that its publication did us much good." All talks with people in Wales on this subject were positive and all indicated a willingness to help. There was some talk, apparently originating with a Salt Lake City group, about talks with a Professor Wilkinson of BYU regarding the turn over of the Administration Building at BYU for the use of the Welsh National Library of America. Chairman Rowland urged caution on this matter and that "we must not forget that the main responsibility rests with the N.G.G.A...." They authorized the formation of the Library, its location at BYU, appointed the Library Committee and, it must be assumed, had the final say in all major policies. It might be suggested that everyone concerned has due regard for this before instigating any action which might cause embarrassment, or commit the Executive Committee of the N.G.G.A. to do more than has so far been authorized—the collection of Books (not artifacts whose place is in a museum, or pictures which belong in an art gallery), have them transmitted to authorized repository at BYU for cataloging and safe keeping. Any other plans must be most carefully considered, step by step." At meetings with staff personnel at the Welsh National Library at Aberystwyth, **Rowland and Anne Davies Thomas** learned of resolutions of and reciprocity and in his report Rowland urged the passage of resolutions at Rochester accepting the kind offer of the Welsh National Library. They both attended the first meeting of Y Cymru ar Wasgar at the Royal National Eisteddfod at Rhyl where he was surprised to be asked to talk on the Welsh National Library of America. "We were both asked to participate in a BBC tape session which worked its way around to the Welsh National Library of Wales."

This project was "killed" at the 1957 annual meeting as being outside the Purpose of the NGGA expressed in the Constitution and By Laws.

Directory of Welsh Cultural Artists and Ministers.

This Directory is published occasionally as a need is indicated. It provides information on the availability of individuals and groups for Welsh events throughout the continent. Listings include gymanfa conductors, choirs, voice and instrumental soloists, poets and storytellers, genealogists, historians and ministers. Copies may be available from the WNGGA International Headquarters.

Newsletter-Membership Bulletin

A motion passed in Cincinnati in 1961 to have a national newsletter. The first bulletin found with the minutes was dated June 19, 1964 and titled NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION 1964 BULLETIN. President **Col. H. Llewellyn Roberts** and Secretary **George Bundy** signed the issue and the secretary issued it. It was addressed to Members and Friends of the NGGA. It contained advance information on the National coming up in Philadelphia and notice of the tax-exempt status of the NGGA. The next bulletin, dated 1965, contained relatively routine information.

At a 1969 meeting, **Eluned Thomas** suggested that the NGGA send out a news bulletin every two or three months until other arrangements were made. This came about during a discussion of the unsatisfactory nature of relations with **Horace Breese Powell** and the Drych.

At a 1970 Board meeting, a suggestion was made to contact **John O. Morgans** to see if he would be willing to lay out a NGGA newsheet for quarterly distribution to members. This evidently was construed to be a new Welsh paper, not practical, and too costly.

The first issue of *HWYL (Hooil)* was Vol. 1; No. 1 dated Winter 1991. Two issues Vol. 2, Nos. 1 and 2 were dated Winter 1992 and Summer 1993. A publication titled THE *WNGGA BULLETIN*, dated Nov. 1992 and Feb. 1993 intervened before Vol. 3, No. 1 of *HWYL* started again with the issue of Summer 1994.

A somewhat more scheduled issue of *HWYL* began with Vol. 4, No. 1 in January under the editorship of **Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr.** This continued under his editorship with 15 more issues through Vol. 11, No. 1 in Spring 2002.

Editors

Patricia Powell Viets

Dr. Ellis J. Jones

Col. Alfred J. Reese, Jr-1994 -2002

Dr. Ellis J. Jones-2002

The Fall and Winter issues of 1999-2000 contained some interesting data collected from registrations for the 1999 National in Minneapolis

Ten most popular names registered: Jones (66), Williams (36), Davis (26),

Thomas (26) Davies (22), Evans (19), Hughes (18), Lloyd (17), Lewis (16) and Roberts (16) totaling 262 out of approximately 1,000 registrations.

Ten states with most registrants: Minnesota (276), Wisconsin (121), Pennsylvania (89), Illinois (67), Ohio (52), Iowa (44), California (39), Washington (34), New York (32) and Michigan (31) totaling 785 out of approximately 1,000 registrants.

Membership as of August 15, 2001 was 2,847 (individual life-2,493 and

individual annual-354.) This showed an increase in individual life members of 439 over July 31, 1999 in spite of vigorous actions to remove deceased members during this period. The fluctuations in individual annual members are apparent with 287 as of July 31, 1999 and 160 as of August 15, 2000.

Hymnals

Simple mimeographed songsheets, with only the words for the hymns, were used at some of the early Nationals. The Program for the 1933 National in Chicago was the first to contain the hymns (19) with music and, in most cases, only with the Welsh words. The Program for the 1934 National in Cleveland contained 27 hymns with music and Welsh and English words.

It is difficult to understand how any document can be printed without some indication of the date of printing. Most would never think of not dating a simple letter. The Golden Jubilee Edition, the 1979 hymnal, was the first to be clearly dated

None of the earlier hymnals, published by or for the NGGA or the WNGGA was dated. One can only guess.

The Constitution and By-Laws, approved in 1935, refers to the task of the Music Committee to compile a selection of music and hymnology in a manner suitable for a booklet for use of the membership. Any one of three undated versions may have been the early hymnals. Two titled *Selected Welsh and English Favorite Hymns* differed only that one was published by and the other for THE NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

FAVORITE Welsh and English *HYMNS AND MELODIES*, contains this statement in its PREFACE "For use on Noson Lawen and other social occasions some of the charming old folk songs of the Welsh people are added at the end of the book. These pleasing melodies deserve to be better known and to be made available not only for enjoyment but for the preservation of the lighter side of the culture of Wales." The year 1949 is hand written on its cover.

From financial reports, it appears that the first hymnals (10,000) were procured by the NGGA sometime between August 1947 and August 1948. An additional print of 10,000 occurred in 1950 and the meeting of 1951 was told that 20,000 had been printed to date. Sale price for the NGGA hymnal in Rochester was 50 cents. These were also available in Columbus in 1952 at the same selling price.

During the 1954 annual meeting in Philadelphia, Prof. William R. Hughes, who conducted the 1947 National Gymanfa Ganu, recommended that, if and when a new edition of the hymnal is printed, "That the words be printed under the music." As will be seen, it was a long time before this suggestion was implemented.

The treasurer's report, as of 31 July 1957 for the hymnal savings account, indicated receipts of \$2,704.80 and after transfer of \$518.33 to the hymnal checking account a balance on hand of \$2,186.47 remained. For the hymnal checking account, receipts of \$1,091.29 and disbursements of \$962.38 left \$128.91 as a balance on hand. The balance on hand total

for the hymnal accounts was \$2,315.38. The treasurer noted that the balance on hand in the hymnal funds must never be allowed to go below the cost of the next run of 10,000 hymnals. The last printing, in 1954, cost \$2,009.85.

The earliest hymnal in the author's possession that can be positively dated is FAVORITE WELSH and ENGLISH HYMNS published for the 1946 Victory National Gymanfa Ganu of Akron, Ohio under the *Auspices* the National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

The local venue committees produced and printed all hymnals used during the early Nationals. It was reported during the 1947 annual meeting that the NEC appointed a translation committee consisting of **Judge David G. Jenkins**, **Rev. R. R. Williams**, Utica; **Professor John Hughes**, Montreal, and **Rev. Daniel Hughes**, Detroit to work on the hymnal. This committee reported on the extensive work done to assure proper hymns to go with the tunes selected by the Music Committee and regretted the inability of the committee to complete the work in time for the 1947 National. It may be that the version titled *FAVORITE* Welsh and English *HYMNS AND MELODIES* was this production since the back cover, for the first time to my knowledge, contains the article The Gymanfa Ganu by **Judge David G. Jenkins**. All later versions carried this article.

Another *FAVORITE* Welsh and English *HYMNS AND MELODIES*, was, in all probability, a later version since it carried the name WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION, INC the name change approved during the 1971 Annual General Meeting. The statement regarding "charming old folk songs of Welsh people" and 'pleasing melodies' was deleted from the Preface of this version.

The 1929 – Golden Jubilee Edition – 1979 hymnal was clearly the work of a committee consisting of: **Dr. Kenneth O. Jones**, General Chairman; **Lyn Harry**, M.B. Mus, G.R.S.M., Consultant-Advisor-Counsellor; **Morris L. Wrench**, Consultant-Advisor-Coounsellor; **Olwen Morgan Welk**, Secretary-Co-Editor and **Ann Davies Thomas**, Editor. The Golden Jubilee Edition remained in use until the major work of including the words of the hymns within the music staves was completed in the 1995 edition of *Welsh and English Hymns and Anthems (Reformatted)*.

A motion approved at a 1993 board meeting deposited the bequests from **Chris Edwards** (\$10,000) and **Elizabeth Griffiths** (\$10,322) in the fund for the revision of hymnals. Chris Edwards was the wife of former WNGGA treasurer **David M. Edwards**. Elizabeth Griffiths was the chair of the local committee for the 1976 National in Philadelphia. The motion also directed that proceeds of hymnal sales (less postage costs) and the accrued interest from the bequests should also go into the hymnal fund.

The 1995 reformatted hymnal (6 x 9) was made possible by the generous bequests of **Chris Edwards** of Cleveland and **Elizabeth Griffiths** of Philadelphia as well as contributions from many other persons and organizations. The guidelines for the reformatting called for including two verses of Welsh and two verses of English within the music and, as much as possible, retention of page numbering contained in the Jubilee hymnal. Where this was not possible, the page number from the Jubilee hymnal was indicated by (J-) in the reformatted hymnal.

Dr. Ellis J. Jones (MN) was the coordinator of the reformatted hymnal committee responsible for the very intensive effort required placing the words in with the music. Computer Consultant **Michael Dripps** (MN) knew nothing about the Welsh language and hymns. His patience, good humor, and excellent skills in entering every single note, word, and page in many drafts contributed greatly to the successful completion of the project. Proofreaders **Martha and Dr. Phillips. G. Davies** (IA); **Joan Owen Mandry** (OH); **Hefina Phillips** (GA); and **Karen Jones Wojahn**, MN completed this essential task. Executive Director **Nelson L. Llewellyn** provided strong support and assistance for the final publication.

An enlarged version (8 ½ x 11) of the reformatted hymnal was also made available in 1995. Both the regular and enlarged versions were plastic spiral bound with glossy covers. The enlarged version, made available for sight impaired users and especially conductors, had the additional protection of a clear plastic shield over the front cover.

A question on the origin of the three feathers that appear on the hymnal cover led to **Elinor Bennett** providing a contact at the National Library of Wales. A letter, dated 31 March 2000, from **M. W. Mainwaring** MA Solicitor, Director of Administration and Technical Services at the National Library provided the following information.

“The three feathers (Ostrich plumes) are the historic personal badge of the (male) heir to the throne who normally becomes the Prince of Wales. They are often seen with a motto beneath reading “ICH DIEN” (old German for “I serve”). The badge has therefore been adopted by many Welsh Institutions and members of the Welsh Rugby Team wear this proudly on their left breasts. The full badge has a crown of fleur-de-lys and crosses encircling the plumes.

The symbols date back to the Black Prince and the Battle of Crecy and perhaps even earlier. They featured in the “Hundred Years War” with France and are therefore very historic. The present Prince of Wales wears a signet ring bearing this badge.

I hope this helps.”

Folk Song Book

The fact that folk songs were not to be included in the Jubilee Hymnal led to statements in 1978 that something needed to be done to fill this void.

David Mandry, at the Sept 5, 1981 afternoon BOT meeting, suggested that the hymnal committee be reactivated for the purpose of producing a book of folk music, possibly with guitar accompaniment. Someone suggested Welsh carols and some modern numbers. A motion to this effect passed. A new committee would be formed and \$2,000 from the Endowment Fund was suggested. One trustee expressed concern that this might encourage the WNGGA to become a secular organization. The president felt we should not rush into this and give it further thought.

The folk song book committee, chaired by Gwenfyl Jones, was not formed until sometime after the 4 September 1982 meeting. The committee’s undated report was presented and discussed at the 1983 board of trustees’ meetings. It contained a list of some 60 selected folk songs and a target date of 1 December 1984 for distribution of the folk song book.

The WNGGA Folk Song Book, *Songs Of The Dragon-Caneuon Y Ddraig*, a spiral bound, glossy cover (8 ½ x 11) book, was published in 1993. The book was dedicated to “the memory of **Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas**, Salt Lake City, Utah and **The Reverend John Richard Owen**, Lisbon, Ohio. Both the late Mrs. Thomas and the late Rev. Owen served as WNGGA trustees. *Songs Of The Dragon* contains 72 songs leading off alphabetically with probably the most well known song *Ar Hyd Y Nos -All Through The Night*.

In the Preface, **Joan Owen Mandry** reported that a committee was formed in 1983 with **Rev. John R. Owen** as chairman. A questionnaire was sent to members of the WNGGA asking for a list of their favorite songs. A list of songs was chosen. Unfortunately, Rev. Owen died in 1984 while serving as trustee and the work came to a standstill. Several attempts were made to revive the project but, nothing was done until 1990 when a new committee, consisting of **Tom Brownfield**, **Joan Owen Mandry** and **Lloyd Savage**, all from Ohio, was appointed.

Perhaps the story is best told by one of the participants, Joan Owen Mandry, in extracts from her article in the August 1993 issue of *Ninnau*.

In 1983, **Norman Williams**, President of the WNGGA, appointed a committee chaired originally by Vice President **Gwenfyl Jones** to look into the possibility of publishing a book of Welsh folk songs. **Rev. John R. Owen**, of Lisbon, OH became chairman when Gwenfyl resigned because of illness. A questionnaire sent to WNGGA members produced a list of favorite Welsh folk songs from which ninety songs were chosen and publishing companies were approached on copyright problems. Following Rev. Owen's death in December 1984, several unsuccessful attempts were made to revive the book. When **Dr. Don Mills**, Ottawa, Canada, became president in 1990, he appointed a Folk Song Book Committee of **Lloyd Savage, Tom Brownfield and Joan Owen Mandry**, all of Ohio to move on the project.

The original list of songs was reduced to eighty and finally to seventy-two. **Lloyd Savage's** work was monumental. He copied all the music by hand then typed the Welsh and English words beneath the music notes. All this was done for the computer operator to produce "camera ready" copy for printing. There was proof reading, proof reading, proof reading and more proof reading.

The copyright problems seemed insurmountable until **Don Mills** intervened. He was instrumental in putting the committee in touch with **Dr. Roy Saer**, Cardiff, Wales, who help greatly in obtaining copies of songs from the Journal of The Welsh Song Society and deciding their copyright fees. He put **Joan Owen Mandry** in touch with **Dr. Rhidian Griffiths**, Aberystwyth, Wales, without whose help most holders of the copyright would not have been found.

Other help in Wales came from **Gareth Jones** for copyright information, **Carys Williams** and **Edward Morus Jones** for reviewing the original list of songs, and **Meredydd Evans** for his help, encouragement and permission to use his song "Hen Feic Peni-Ffardding" free of copyright fees. The family of **J. Glyn Davies**: **Gwen Koblentz** and **Mair Burman** in the U.S.A. and **Elin Williams** and **Gwion Davies** in Wales, donated their father's sea songs from his book *Cerddi Huw Puw* free of charge. Publishing companies **Snell & Songs**, Swansea, Wales, and **Boosey & Hawkes**, London and New York gave permission to use their songs without charging fees. Thanks go to those WNGGA officers previously mentioned, to **Dr. David Mandry** for his design of the cover and title page, to **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** and **Nelson L. Llewellyn**, the current president and secretary of the WNGGA for help support, patience and encouragement.

"Working on this book has truly been a labor of love. It has been hard work and very time consuming, but it has also been fun because working with **Lloyd Savage** has been a joy and a privilege. **Jean Savage** and my husband, **David Mandry**, have been very patient and have suffered long through uproarious laughter, loud singing accompanied by various instruments, vociferous arguments and long hours of quiet concentration. These sessions sometimes lasting [sic] far into the night and for several days."

The book was dedicated to the memory of **Mrs. Ann Davies Thomas**, Salt Lake City, UT and the late **Rev. John R. Owen**, Lisbon, OH.

In the Introduction, **Lloyd C. Savage** advised that the notation shown in the song book could only give a general idea of how the song was presented, even in different keys, at one time by one individual or group in different parts of Wales. Chords designated in the book, as well as keys, are only a guide. Because of this, the folk song book is neither "official" nor definitive.

Phonetic Song Book

The first mention of phonetics appeared in the 1949 minutes that reported \$74 due from the sale of phonetics and receipts of \$.25 for one set of phonetics.

The first phonetic hymnal, *WELSH HYMNS FOR ENGLISH SINGERS*, the work of **Judge David G. Jenkins**, "Hanesydd", was published in 1957. In his Preface, Judge Jenkins reported:

In response to a wide demand from singers who do not read Welsh, this booklet containing a phonetic imitation of the words of Welsh hymns has been prepared. It was urged that the Welsh spirit and the Welsh speech are inseparable, and that when this spirit cannot use the old language as its medium it will die and with it the Gymanfa.

Those who enjoy that deep stirring of the spirit which the combination of the words of the ancient tongue with the old tunes gives, will be able, by mastering the few symbols which follow, to sing every Welsh hymn even if they no longer speak or understand the language.

In this imitation, many niceties of Welsh pronunciation are omitted. It is not intended for those who read Welsh. It is intended for those unfamiliar with that language who want to sing what their Welsh friends are singing.

As of Nov. 1, 1957, more than 800 copies were sold

With the 1957 phonetic book long out of print and needing an update to conform to the Golden Jubilee Hymnal (1979) and its reformatted version (1995), a decision was made to publish a new version.

Welsh Hymns for Non Welsh Singers was published by the WNGGA and printed by Gustavus Adolphus College in 2001. In their Preface, **Joan Owen Mandry**, **William John Lewis, MD**, and **Lloyd Savage** stated that “our admiration for the tremendous work that **Judge David G. Jenkins** did on the original Phonetic Book grew by leaps and bounds. This was a man who knew what he was about. We have tried to keep within his guidelines as much as possible but some deviations have occurred.” They emphasized most strongly, as did Judge Jenkins, that the book was NOT for those who speak or read Welsh or for those who are learning Welsh. In his Acknowledgment thanking **Joan Owen Mandry**, **Wm. John Lewis**, and **Lloyd Savage**, President **Alan Upshall** extended “special appreciation to **Ms. Eileen Holz**, Layout and Typesetter, St. Peter, Minnesota, (a non-Welsh speaker) for the excellence with which she prepared the text.

An announcement was issued in August 2001 listing the price of the new phonetic hymnal *Welsh Hymns for Non-Welsh Singers*, based on the 1995 Reformatted Hymnal, as \$11 per copy for up to 9 copies. For 10 or more copies to the same address in the same package, the price is \$9.90. For those wanting to order a set of the Phonetic and the 1995 Reformatted Hymnal, the price is \$20 a savings of \$3 when ordering separate items.

The symbols referred to by Judge Jenkins in his original preface can be found with slight modifications in the reformatted hymnals and the current issue of the phonetic songbook.

THE ALPHABET

A Guide to Pronunciation

A B C CH D DD E F FF G H NG

I L LL M N O P PH R RH S T TH U W Y

The accent in Welsh is nearly always on the next to the last syllable, except in a few instances when it falls on the last syllable. Every letter in Welsh is pronounced. There are no silent letters in Welsh.

Most letters have only one basic sound, which makes pronunciation simple, but you will notice that all vowels can be long or short. There are two extra vowels in Welsh:

A E I O U W Y

All others are consonants including the double letter consonants:

CH DD FF NG LL PH RH TH

- A — short as in “man”, or long in “half”. Never as in “mane.”
- B — as in “boy.”
- C — as in “cat”, never as in “city”.
- CH — an aspirated “C” which does not occur in English. The sound is the same as in the Scottish “loch”.
- D — as in “dog”.
- DD — as in “the” or in “heather”. Never as in “think”.
- E — short as in “men” or long as in “lady”.
- F — as in “of” or “ever”. It is the same as the English “V”.
- FF — as in “for” or “effort”.
- G — always hard as in “garden”, never soft as in “gin”.
- NG — nasal as in “long”.
- H — as in “hard” or in “hat”, never silent.
- I — short as in “pink” or long as in “tree”.
- L — as in “ladder”.
- LL — has no equivalent English sound. Place the tongue on the roof of the mouth near the teeth as if to pronounce “L”, then blow voicelessly
- M — as in “Mum”.
- N — as in “noun”.
- O — short as in “gone”, or long as in “toe”.
- P — as in “pup”.
- PH — as in “physic”, has the same sound as the Welsh “FF”.
- R — as in “arrow” or “rat”. Always strongly rolled.
- RH — an aspirated “R” which does not occur in English. The difference between “RH” and “R” is slight and is similar to the difference between “WH” and “W” e.g. “when” and “went”.
- S — as in “song”, never as in “as”.
- T — as in “toy”.
- TH — as in “think”, never as in “the”.
- U — short as in “tin” or long as in “queen”.
- W — short as in “look” or as in “zoo”.
- Y — short as in “pin” or long as in “seen”. “Y” also has a third sound as in “run” and this occurs quite often in Welsh.

The letters J K Q V X and Z never occur in pure Welsh words.

Cwm Rhondda (Rhondda Valley)

Guide me, O Thou great Je-ho-vah, Pil-grim, through this bar-ren land;
Ar-glwydd, ar-wain trwy'r an-ia -lwch, Fi, be -re -rin gwael ei wedd,
Ar-gloo-ith, ar-wine troo-ir an-yal-ooch, Vee, ber-err-in gwile eye wathe

I am weak, but Thou art might-y, Hold me with Thy pow'r-ful hand:
Nad oes y - nof nerth na by-wyd, Fel yn gorf-wedd yn y bedd:
Nahd oiss un-ov nerrth nah buh-wid Vel un gor-weth un uh bathe

Strong De-liv-erer, Strong De-liv-erer BeThou still my strength and shield,
Holl - a - llu -og Holl - a-llu - og, Y - dyw'r Un a'm cwyd i'r lan,
Holl - all-ee - og, Holl - all-ee -og, Ud - i-oor Een am coo-id eer lan,

Be Thou still my strength and shield.
Y dyw'r Un a'm cwyd i'r lan.
Ud—i- oor Een am coo-id eer lan.

WNGGA PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDINGS

Single purchase prices current as of November 2003

Payment in US dollars or equivalent

Shipping/handling charges added based on net total of order

Publications are available from the WNGGA International Headquarters,

PO Box 215, Hartland, MI 48353-0215. Prices are as of 2003.

Welsh and English Hymns and Anthems (Reformatted Edition) containing 118 hymns and anthems in Welsh and in English. The spiral bound hymnals are available in two sizes- 6 by 9 (\$12 US each) and 8 ½ by 11 (\$17 US each).

Songs of the Dragon (Caneuon Y Ddraig), the 8 ½ by 11, spiral bound folk song book containing 72 songs, is available at \$11 US each.

Welsh Hymns for English Singers contains no music but does have the phonetic pronunciation for every word and every hymn and anthem in the official hymnal. The 6 by 9 spiral bound book is designed to lie flat and be held next to the respective song in the hymnal. It is available in single copies at \$11 US each or in a set with the official hymnal at \$20 US each set.

FACTS ABOUT THE WNGGA, a four fold brochure contains information on the WNGGA and its objectives, venues of the National Gymanfa Ganu (now a major part of the North American Festival of Wales) starting in 1929, and available publications. It describes the Scholarship Endowment Fund. Membership is defined and governance of the organization is specified along with a listing of current officers and trustees. It is available upon request from the International Headquarters.

1999 Minneapolis National Gymanfa Ganu Cassettes-\$12

2002 Harrisburg National Gymanfa Ganu Cassettes-\$15

A 10% discount applies to orders of more than 10 of the above items sent to the same address. Michigan residents add sales tax. Send orders to The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc., P.O. Box 215, Hartland, MI 48353-0215. Phone 810-632-7850; fax: 810-632-7805; toll free: 800-477-0090. E-mail wngga@comcast.net. Master Card or VISA accepted.

Effective 1 January 2003, the following Shipping/Handling charges will be added to the net cost of items purchased:

If Net Cost is	Added S/H
\$15.00 or less	\$3.00
\$15.01 to \$20.00	\$4.00
\$20.01 to \$30.00	\$5.00
\$30.01 to \$40.00	\$6.00
\$40.01 to \$50.00	\$7.00
\$50.01 to \$75.00	\$8.00
\$75.01 to \$100.00	\$9.00
\$100.01 to \$125.00	\$10.00
\$125.01 plus	9 percent
Special handling (FED EX, UPS, etc.)	Actual Cost

Publication sales for the years ending 30 June 2001, 30 June 2002 and 19 August 2003 and the remaining inventory verify the importance of the WNGGA Publications Program.

	2001	2002	2003	Inventory
Hymnals (Regular)	499	347	235	3603
Hymnals (Large)	216	122	158	180
Folk Song Books	40	70	95	1157
Phonetic Books	0	501	240	491*
Minneapolis CD's	15	48	0	0
Minneapolis Cassettes	46	14	54	25
Harrisburg CD's **			256	244
Then and Now ***			39	61

*New inventory from recent 500 receipt.

**WNGGA Headquarters will retain all earnings on sale of CD's.

*** Includes 37 complimentary copies.

APPENDIX J

SOME VERY IMPORTANT MISCELLANIES

Do not let the title of this Appendix mislead or downgrade the importance of its contents. It was just one way to bring together a diverse group of facts in one location for easy reference.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Support From North American Welsh Newspapers-Ninnau and Y Drych

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association has benefited greatly from the support provided by the Welsh oriented media in North America. In 1930 and 1931 *The Druid* apparently provided the Programs used during those Nationals. Advertisements reminded all that *The Druid*, available through subscription for \$2.00 a year, was the Welsh-American organ for keeping in touch and “was devoted to the preservation of Welsh ideals in this beloved land of our adoption, and of our entity as Welsh-Americans in the face of rapid assimilation.”

For many years, even through its most difficult years, *Y Drych* and later the new *Ninnau* have been the strongest supporters of the National, providing the most complete pre-National information and thorough follow up reports and pictorial coverage. Appreciation is owed to **Horace Breese Powell**, **Patricia Powell Viets**, Mary **Morris Mergenthal** of *Y Drych* and **Dr. Arturo L. Roberts** of *Ninnau* for their contributions to the success of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and the annual National Gymanfaoedd. Best wishes for continued success go to *Y Drych*, its new Publisher/Editor **Patricia A. Louise** and *Ninnau* and its Publisher/Executive Editor **Dr. Arturo L. Roberts**. As this was being written, word was received that *Y Drych* ceased publication and became part of *Ninnau*.

The Program for the 1951 National in Milwaukee carried this reminder which is still very important and applicable now to *Ninnau*

JUST A THOUGHT

The “Drych” is the most important link between the Welsh of America in America and their homeland.

If this paper fails, many of the things we now take for granted will also die with it. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN.

REMEMBER THAT AN EARLY SUPPORTER OF THE NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU, *THE DRUID*, DIED. NOW *Y DRYCH* IS GONE. DO NOT LET THIS HAPPEN TO *NINNAU*.

Subscriptions to *Ninnau*, *The North American Welsh Newspaper* are available from 11 Post Terrace, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920-2498.

Support From Wales Tourist Board (WTB)

The Wales Tourist Board has been an active supporter of the WNGGA and its annual National Gymanfa Ganu. Support has been in the form of recognition and encouragement of WNGGA activities, commitment of resources, special receptions and assistance in getting groups from Wales. Representatives of the WTB have participated at the Nationals as guest speakers, seminar presenters, and presenters of displays and literature on Wales. Perhaps the earliest reference to tourism in Wales was in a British Tourist Authority ad in the Buffalo 1968 Program. There was a WTB open house in Niagara Falls, NY in 1979 and **Lord Gordon Parry**, Chairman of the WTB, was the chairman at the plaque dedication ceremony on Goat Island. Lord Gordon Parry also visited the Vancouver 1980 National in a dual capacity as Chairman of the WTB and President of the Llanelli Male Voice Choir. Since then, the support of the WTB has been greatly appreciated. Special thanks go to **Lord Gordon Parry, I. Prys Edwards, Paul E. Loveluck and Jonathan Jones.**

Support of Volunteers

Volunteers are the life's blood of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and its annual Nationals. With certain exceptions such as the secretaries and recording secretaries who received small gratuities and today's executive director, all officers and trustees serve without any pay. Today's serving presidents and the executive director are provided rooms at the headquarters hotels from those complimentary rooms furnished by the hotel. The other officers are provided rooms paid for out of the WNGGA treasury. Volunteers with the local hosting venue committees staff the registration desks, information booths, and tearooms and perform a multitude of tasks during the Nationals. It is not an exaggeration to say that a National would not be possible without the support of the many appreciated volunteers.

Support From Gustavus Adolphus College

In 1998 when **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** became Executive Director, the International Headquarters moved from Warren, OH to **Gustavus Adolphus College** in St. Peter, MN. Gustavus Adolphus College **President Steuer** confirmed that the WNGGA would have access to a number of services at the college. These included:

Use of college office space with rent of \$205 that first year. This did increase slightly each year to \$245.

Use of college owned computer and furniture in the office.

Technical support from the college's Administration Computer and Information Technology Centers at no cost.

Access to the college's internet service at no cost.

Access to college owned FAX equipment. The WNGGA later purchased its own FAX machine.

Access to the College Post Office with WNGGA paying postage.

Access to the College Book Mark for needed supplies.

Access to UPS and other pickup and delivery services through the Post Office.

Access to the College Print Room for paid services.

Access to assistance from work-study students provided under Federal Work-Study regulations.

Access to College Guest House for visits of Association officials.

Access to college dining facilities.

Access to campus security.

Free campus parking.

There was also the possibility of access to a student internship program and an administrative intern (at no cost) if needed.

These arrangements proved to be of significant value to the WNGGA. While payment was made for many of the above services, they frequently proved to be at lower cost. The Association owes a great deal of thanks to Gustavus Adolphus College for the courtesy and cooperation extended to personnel of the International Headquarters, Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

THE WC AT GAC

While at Gustavus Adolphus College, Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** was often asked what he was doing now that he was retired. He found that his answer that he was working at the International Headquarters of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association was too long. He shortened it to the Welsh Center which he abbreviated as WC forgetting that WC was often used as the abbreviation for Water Closet (bathroom).

During a recent Noson Lawen at a National, Ellis recounted a dream sequence that found him answering an inquiry about the WC in the following manner.

“Thank you for your inquiry saying you were coming through St. Peter and wanted to know where WC was located on the campus. When you come to campus, just park in the visitor’s parking lot and if you walk fast, the WC is only about 5 minutes away. It is located off the lobby of Sorensen Residence Hall.

We usually keep the door open with a sign on the wall next to the door. However, the front door to the residence hall is usually locked but there is a telephone in the outer lobby to call me and, if you can wait, I can come to the front door and let you in.

I usually spend most of the day in the WC from about 8:30 in the morning to about 5:00 in the afternoon. I am quite regular.

The WC is a fairly large pleasant room with a big banner on one wall to welcome everyone who stops. We have very comfortable seating with two computers and a printer available in case you would like to check your e-mail or to simply use them while you are here.

We have lots of hymnals—regular size and enlarged ones—in case you would like to sing while you are here. We also have folk song books with really interesting songs such as ‘All Through the Night,’ ‘Hail to the Morning,’ and ‘Now to Bethlehem Go.’

At one end of the room we have floor to ceiling windows with floor to ceiling blinds. On nice days we like to have them open so that people can look in. We have several filing cabinets where we store valuable specimens or materials. The brown ones are different than the green ones.

We have lots of paper, some of it in different colors and some of it in lighter weight than others. We also have different types of envelopes, some of them padded in case we need to protect whatever has been put in them.

While you are visiting the WC, you can look at our big bulletin board, which has a map with pins in it.

Yes, our secretary usually comes in about 10:00 each day and brings her lunch since she stays until the end of the day. The WC has a nice carpet on the floor and has several shelving units

in case we need to put things where we can find them quickly. If you like, we can prepare a life or annual membership card for you although you wouldn't have to show it to get in again.

With the hot days of summer, we have a window air conditioning unit which certainly helps keep the air cool and refreshing.

We will be delighted to welcome you to the WC. If time permits, we might even have a mini-Gymanfa Ganu while you are here.”

REPEATERS

Presidents for More Than One Term.

Prior to 1960 terms were stated in years.

William Lewis-2

John Evans-2

Caradoc Ellis-3

***Henry T. Jones-10**

Allen Thomas-4

Dr. M. D. Thomas-2

John G. Roberts-5 (Includes one 2 year term)

Beginning 1960 terms were for 2 years with immediate succession restricted

Service as Venue Chairman for More Than One National

Glenn Grove-1995, 2002 Harrisburg, PA

Ernest Harris-1946, 1947 Akron, OH

Jack A. Pritchard-1983, 1993 Wilkes-Barre, PA

John G. Roberts-1956, 1969, 1974 Cleveland, OH

Allen Thomas-1940, 1948 Detroit, MI

***Dr. M. D. Thomas-1949, Salt Lake City, UT; 1960, San Francisco, CA; 1966 Los Angeles, CA and 1971, Salt Lake City, UT.**

Alan Upshall-1994, Bellevue, WA and 2003, Richmond, BC

Cities With More Than One National (51) through 2001

Akron-2	*Niagara Falls, NY-5
Buffalo-2	Ottawa-2
Chicago-3	Philadelphia-3
Cleveland-4	Pittsburgh-3
Columbus-3	Salt Lake City-3
Detroit-3	Toronto-4
Harrisburg-2	Utica-4
Milwaukee-4	Wilkes-Barre-2
Minneapolis-2	

OTHERS

Singles-

There were 20 other cities that hosted Nationals

Atlantic City; Bellevue, WA; Canton, OH; Cincinnati; Johnstown, PA; Kansas City, MO; Los Angeles; Montreal; New Castle, PA; New York City; Portland, OR; Richmond, BC; Rochester, NY; St. Paul; San Francisco; San Jose; Vancouver, BC; Victoria, BC; Washington, DC and Youngstown,

Regionals

A motion passed in 1938 to allow the Welsh people of the Pacific Coast to hold a National Gymanfa Ganu in 1939 to be called the Western Division National. No record has been found that this event ever took place. The identification of the 1956 San Francisco regional in the minutes as the third seems to verify that it did not. Although the first Regional (Western) Gymanfa Ganu was held in Seattle in 1952, authorization for regionals did not appear in the Constitution until the 1958 edition. Regional Gymanfaedd were held in:

Seattle-1952	Pittsburgh-1960
Edmonton-1954	Seattle-1962.
San Francisco-1956	Cleveland-1966
Vancouver-1958	San Francisco-1976

The 1960 minutes show that a regional was approved for 1962 in Edmonton. Evidently, this never occurred as the 1962 minutes reported results at Seattle disappointing with a financial loss of approximately \$750. The minutes get confusing at times. A June 19, 1964 report congratulated the sponsors of the 1963 regional in Seattle.

Questions arose about the need for a regional. Reference to regionals last appeared in the 1994 Constitution.

CHOIRS AND REPEAT CONDUCTORS

Concert Choirs From Wales

The first concert choir from Wales was the Morryston Orpheus Choir that appeared in the 1975 National in New York City.

Aberystwyth Madrigal Singers-1961

Cantorion Ardwyn, the first mixed voice choir-1992 .

Côr Meibion Caernarfon-1988

*Côr Meibion Llanelli 1980, 1990, 1994, 2001

Côr Meibion Pendyrus-1995

Côr Meibion Y Traeth-1982, 1997

Dunvant Male Voice Choir-2003

Morryston Orpheus Choir-1975-1991

North Wales Masonic Choir-1989

Rhos Male Voice Choir-1986,1998

South Wales Choir-2000

Concert Choirs From North America

Côr Cymraeg Rehoboth, Anthems at the Gymanfa sessions 1993, 2002

Hamilton Orpheus Male Choir-1979

Montreal Welsh Male Voice Choir and the Fine Arts Core Education Senior Treble Choir-1985

Mormon Youth Chorus and Symphony-1971

North American Welsh Choir-1999

Ottawa Welsh Coral Society and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band.

Three M Male Chorus-1978

Service as Gymanfa Ganu Conductor for more than one National

Albert T. Davies -1960, San Francisco and 1963, Detroit.

Iwan Edwards-1981, Utica; 1985, Montreal; 1987, St. Paul; and 1996 Utica.

Alun Guy-1983, 1993 both in Wilkes-Barre.

Prof. Evan Harris-1929, 1931 both in Niagara Falls, NY.

Lyn Harry-1976, Philadelphia and 1978, Minneapolis.

E. J. Hughes-1953, Rochester, and 1954, Philadelphia.

*Prof. William A. Hughes-1946, Akron; 1949, Salt Lake City; 1956, Cleveland; 1957, Washington, DC; 1958, Milwaukee and 1962, Utica.

Dr. Terry James-1966, Los Angeles; 1969, Cardiff, Wales; 1975, New York.

Alun John-1967, Toronto; 1968, Buffalo; 1970, Milwaukee; 1974, Swansea, Wales; and 1979, Niagara Falls, NY.

Noel John-1982, Toronto and 1984, Portland, OR.

Prof. John T. Roberts-1932, Niagara Falls, NY and 1948, Utica.

Ann Davies Thomas-1952, Columbus; 1955, Salt Lake City; 1959 Toronto and 1974, Cleveland.

D. Eifion Thomas-1980, Vancouver; 1990, Victoria, BC; 1994, Bellevue, WA; and 2001, San Jose.

Meirwyn I. Walters-1999, Minneapolis and 2004, Buffalo

Morris Wrench-1965, Pittsburgh and 1969, Cleveland

Frequency of Hymns at National Gymanfaoedd

1965-1979

15 years

(12 or more gymanfaoedd)

Aberystwyth-15	Groeswen-12
Blodwen-15	Llef-14
Bryn Calfaria-13	Milwaukee-13
Calon Lân-12	Penpark-15
Crugybar-12	Rachie-15
Cwm Rhondda-14	Rhosymedre-16
Diadem-16	Sanctus-13
Ebenezer-13	Sandon-12

1980-2002

23 years

(12 or more gymanfaoedd)

Aberystwyth-17	Huddersfield-17
Arglwydd, Dyma Fi-17	Llef-15
Blaenwen-15	Mae D'Eisiau-16
Blodwern-18	Penpark-14
Bryn Calfaria-14	Rachie-18
Bryn Myrddin-17	Rhys-15
Calon Lân-20	Sanctus-20
Cwm Rhodda-26 (some both Sessions)	Sandon-16
Diadem-20	Ebenezer-12

WELSH CENTERS-NORTH AMERICA

Local committees sponsoring a National often take the opportunity to promote their locale's Welsh Connection. These are but three examples (one from US East, one from US West and one from Canada) of the many that have appeared in National Programs.

THE WELSH IN WYOMING VALLEY A BRIEF ACCOUNT Rev. George B. Johnson 1983

Welsh prospectors were early visitors to Luzerne County [Pennsylvania], searching for "black gold", which they found in abundance. They were followed by engineers and other mining experts. The Welsh began to arrive in numbers in the Wyoming Valley in the 1850's. They settled in neighborhood groups in Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, Parsons, Miners Mills, Plains, Ashley, Warrior Run, Sugar Notch, Edwardsville, Plymouth and Nanticoke. By 1880 the greatest concentration of Welsh in America was found in Wilkes-Barre and the surrounding communities.

Many Welsh came to Wyoming Valley because of the bad working conditions in mines in Wales, and because of the reports of great opportunities for them here, such as higher wages and the possibility of obtaining supervisory positions in the mines because of their extensive mining background. Other came to join family members and friends who had come earlier.

They were assimilated into the communities in which they settled and quickly found employment in the many mines operating throughout the Valley. Some were skilled workers and found employment in businesses supporting the mining industry. As the mining industry flourished, many Welsh rose to responsible positions as mine superintendents, foreman, fire bosses, and the like.

Daniel Edwards established the Kingston Coal Company and Morgan B. Williams became president of the Red Ash Coal Company of Wilkes-Barre.

At the turn of the century, many worked in various business enterprises such as grocery stores, meat markets, furniture retailing, and as funeral directors. Others became educators in the public school systems. Not one to shirk civic responsibilities, the Welsh became active in local and county government. Attorney Arthur James of Plymouth served one term as governor of Pennsylvania. Morgan B. Williams served as a congressman.

One of the great traditions the Welsh brought from Wales was their religious faith; much of their activity and behavior was governed by their religious convictions. In their homeland, the church and its related institutions occupied a great portion of a person's life. Four main religious traditions were brought to the Valley: Calvinistic-Methodists (Welsh Presbyterians), Congregationalists, Baptists, and Wesleyan Methodists. Forty-five Welsh churches were established. Each group took its faith very seriously, spending practically all leisure time in church-related activities. Sunday was strictly observed. Many families even prepared food for Sunday on Saturday.

The Sunday School played a very important part in the life of a Welsh family. The Tuesday Evening Class meeting gave all members of the family the opportunity to pray, sing hymns, and recite memorized Bible verses in the native tongue. At the Thursday evening meeting, they would share the influence the Christian faith had upon their lives by giving personal testimonies.

Congregational singing enabled the Welsh to express their feelings. This love and practice of singing led to the holding of the Gymanfa Ganu. (Welsh Hymn Singing Festival) in the Welsh churches throughout the Valley. Welsh from miles around would come and sing until the rafters shook. At the present time a few churches still hold a Gymanfa Ganu on a regular basis and are experiencing increasing participation.

In 1919 Gwilym Amos founded the Orpheus Glee Club which gained national recognition. Today, its successor, the Orpheus Choral Society, includes women and is one of the out-

standing choral groups in the Valley. The Shawnee Welsh Chorus of Plymouth was another well known Welsh singing group, as was the Gwent Glee Club of Edwardsville which flourished into the 20th Century.

Another great Welsh institution, the Eisteddfod, is a gathering of singers. Speakers and writers who compete against each other. For years most Welsh churches conducted an Eisteddfod, but at the present time the only Eisteddfod in the United States is the Cynonfardd Eisteddfod held in Edwardsville. A prime mover in establishing this Eisteddfod was the Reverend Dr. T. C. Edwards, who was named "Archdruid" of America in 1913.

Over the years the Welsh established numerous organizations which served their needs for a particular period of time, such as the Philosophical Society which flourished in the 1890's; the Cynonfardd Literary Society in Edwardsville which taught young church members to use the English language; the Senior Cambrian. A benevolent organization for Welsh women; and the St. David's Society for Welsh men.

Today the Welsh in the Valley carry on many of their traditions by conducting the annual Gymanfa Ganu, the Cynonfardd Eisteddfod, and the St. David's Day banquets honoring the patron saint of Wales on or near March 1 of each year. Within the last few years, the Welsh Day observance has been revived, providing an opportunity for the entire family to gather for fun, relaxation, fellowship, and to strength[en] their ethnic ties.

Together with the Welsh in Lackawanna County and the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc. they entertain the Welsh from around the world during the 1983 National Gymanfa Ganu held in Wilkes-Barre.

Eureka!

A Brief Summary of the Welsh in Minnesota
Jane Ann Roberts & Margaret Williams Carr

1999

It's a well known fact that the Welsh who left Wales to come to America did so because life was so difficult in Wales. The promise of a kinder and more profitable life in America was what prompted so many Welsh to come to this continent. It was predicted that at least 100,000 Welsh would leave and migrate to this country and to Canada. The Welsh who came to Minnesota stopped in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia and then decided to after living there for some period of time to head west. Minnesota was one of the states where many Welsh settled. In the 1840's, many came to the Blue Earth Country as one of the strongholds in Minnesota. They also settled in LeSeuer County, the Minneapolis and St. Paul area, and the Iron Range.

The Welsh came to Minnesota because of the promise of rich farmland which had to be homesteaded and then cleared. After being here they noticed it was NOT the promised land that they thought it was going to be. Some of the hardships they endured included the severe winter seasons, clearing the land to prepare fields for their crops, the mosquitoes in the summer, the Sioux uprising in 1862, and the lack of medical services.

When the Welsh settled they brought with them their religious beliefs so the church became the center of their lives. In Blue Earth County and Minnesota, there were a number of churches that were established in the late 1800's. Some of these were Jerusalem, Salem, Bethel, Moreh, Carmel, Zion, Ottawa as well as the Welsh church in Minneapolis. Many of these churches had three services every Sunday plus prayer meetings and women's association meetings during the week.

It should be noted that Welsh sermons were always given in these churches and ministers were hired on the basis of their ability to preach in the Welsh language. As the years passed it was difficult to find someone who could preach in the Welsh language and by 1946 the Welsh sermons were discontinued. Because of their love of music the Welsh participated in the Cymnanfaoedd Canu as an important part of their lives. The first Cymnanfaoedd Canu in Minnesota were in the 1870's and they have continued to be a vital part of the Welsh communities. They also participated in eisteddfodau, nosonau llawen, and various church events.

As the years progressed, the Welsh population diminished and the Welsh communities were embraced with other ethnic groups. The congregations became smaller over a number of years so eventually the churches were closed and some of the buildings razed.

In an attempt to preserve the traditions started by early Welsh settlers there are many activities presented to the Welsh descendants and their non-Welsh friends. These activities include the Annual State Gymanfa Ganu, the Gymanfa in the Woods, Nosonau Llawen, Welsh language classes (state and national), the Minnesota St. David's Society banquets and special programs, the Gustavus Adolphus College celebrations of St. David's Day, a Mankato State University class for seniors entitled "Mini Gymanfa Ganu", a variety of small singing groups, a folk dance group and the hosting of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu (1978, 1987, 1999). Hopefully these traditions will continue through the next century.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE OTTAWA WELSH SOCIETY
OTTAWA-2000
DR. PAUL BIRT

Welsh women and men have been coming to the Ottawa area for hundreds of years. Along with the early fur traders, an explorer named David ap Thomas left his mark. His name was changed to Thompson and a river was named for him. [I have tried unsuccessfully to find information on the Llewellyn Mountains in Western Canada.] Around the time of the American Revolution Loyalists came north to Canada. One of the first to give birth in Canada was a Welsh lady named Mary Andrew.

Around the end of the 1880's there was a wave of immigration occurred as coal mines closed. Some of the men went to work in the mines of Northern Ontario. Others found work in lumbering. Others had trades in stonemasonry and woodcarving and helped build Canada's Parliament Buildings. Their mark has been left in the decorative leeks, daffodils and dragons on these buildings. One Welsh lumber baron built a beautiful home on 24 Sussex Drive, overlooking the Ottawa River. He named it "Gorffwysfa" or "Place of Peace." Upon his death, it was donated to the people of Canada. It is now the official residence of the Prime Minister.

We know there was a St. David's Society in Ottawa in the decades following Confederation but it met only on St. David's Day. One memorable event was when the 1917 dinner in the Russell Hotel was shaken by an earthquake. In the early 1900's, the Society started an Eisteddfod, with competition open to all comers. It included choirs and soloists from Montreal, Utica, New York and everywhere in between.

Eventually the Eisteddfod grew too large for the Society to handle and the Kiwanis stepped in. Today it is known as the Kiwanis Music Festival and among its annual awards is a trophy and a prize from the Ottawa Welsh Society. We know there was a Male Voice Choir in Ottawa in the 1930's but we have very few records of its history.

In the years leading up to the Second [World] War the Society seems to have died out. But after the War, it was reborn as the Ottawa Welsh Society, It would meet only once a year until the 1960's, but then there arrived a new wave of young people. Many friendships were made on the rugby field, and many of the Welsh newcomers were attracted to the Society. They quickly became involved and expanded the Society's functions to include family and children's events. Soon there would be an annual picnic, car rally, Christmas party, Bar-b-que and Barn Dance and Daffodil Teas. Over the years there have also been Wine and Cheese Parties, Pub Nights, Faggots and Peas Dinner(s) and a play reading (Under Milkwood). A feature of the Ottawa Welsh event calendar is the St. David's Day Dinner which is followed by a Gymanfa Ganu or church service.

In 1968 several members of the Society made an effort to start a Male Voice Choir, but lacking sufficient male singers, decided to establish a mixed choir instead. It remains a very successful and active organization in Ottawa. The Society has also provided Welsh language and folk dancing training, and joined other Celtic Societies in the Ottawa area to help establish the Chair of Celtic Studies at the University of Ottawa.

Hosting the Year 2000 Welsh National is a proud moment for the Ottawa Welsh Society. We also had this great honor in 1977 when the co-chairs were Don Mills and Talfryn Griffiths.

APPENDIX K

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

[Membership is one of the most challenging tasks facing any membership organization. In most organizations, there is a lot of talk about membership but, very little individual action. The membership task may be especially difficult in a Welsh organization because of the innate conservatism of the Welsh. Cardis, the residents of former Cardingshire, are quite proud of their reputation as the “overly frugal” Welsh. A Welsh friend said it differently but quite pointedly, “the only person more thrifty than a Scotsman is a free spending Welshman.”

Other problems with membership in Welsh organizations may be the result of a small Welsh population on the North American continent. The US 1990 census confirmed the relatively small Welsh-American population of 2,033,893. There are no similar figures available for Canada. Welsh-Americans fall way behind all European ethnic groups in the United States: English (although there may be some Welsh embedded here)-32,655,779; Germans-57,985,595; Irish-38,769,200; Italians-14,714,939; Norwegian-3,869,395 Polish-9,366,106; Scotch-Irish-5,617,773; and Scottish-5,393,581. Only the Slovak, Swiss and Ukrainian were reported lower. There was no reporting line for Spanish, Hispanic or Mexican.

It is easy to see how much of the success of German, Irish and Scottish ethnic groups in the United States in telling their story may come from their strength. Just a comparison of the name recognition of St. Patrick’s Day and St. David’s Day is enough to show the strength of the Irish 19 to 1 population advantage. Added to this is the innate conservatism of the Welsh, their sometimes provincial view (remember North and South Wales in a country 130 miles in length and 40 miles at its narrowest. Wales with a total of 8,016 sq. mi. compares to New Jersey with 8,721 sq. mi. And then there is the sometimes indistinguishable difference between Welsh and English. These conditions result in a lower visibility of the Welsh and could well contribute to the failure of Welsh-Americans to associate with their ancestry. The increase of 369,295 reporting Welsh-Americans in the 1990 census over that of the 1980 census, barring any significant immigration, may be attributed to “Roots” awareness in the United States. All this makes the job of operating a national level organization and attracting membership and participation, be it the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association or the National Welsh-American Foundation, all the more difficult.]

The comments extracted from an e-mail from **Mary Ellen Morgan**, co-chair of 1998 National Gymanfa Ganu in Columbus, may also be pertinent

“We don’t have Irish step dancing, nor Scottish pipes, but we are the true Britons, and most Welsh Americans don’t even know it, nor do they know much about the history of that tiny, but tenacious country. Yes, we all seem to like singing (even yours truly who can’t carry a tune in a bucket), genealogy, and the hwyl, but we are more than that. Sheep dogs, Welsh Assembly, Welsh in Shakespeare, authors who write of Welsh history, etc., are all important to us.

Since our primary migration to the US was during the early 1800’s religious revivals, many of us grew up believing that the Welsh were just a little bit stiffer and judgmental than most other groups. We thought that they never drank, never let their hair down, and considered a day of singing hymns riotous fun. That’s not the entire picture, as you well know. Being Welsh is fun, and that aspect, as well as the importing of youthful talent seems to me to be the focus that should be sought to add to our ranks.

Why is it that so many of the Edwards, Williams, Hughes, Jones, Morgans, et al. have no idea they’re Welsh. We need an education campaign. You have no idea how often I’ll meet a Rob-

erts or Pugh and ask if they know they're Welsh, only to find the deer in the headlights response. They don't even know where Wales may be found.

The WNGGA should regard itself as a missionary organization, dedicated to spreading of information about things Cymric. We're a people who love education, and prize it above many, many things, so it would seem only natural to educate the populace as to their heritage, history, culture, future, politics, etc.

Sorry if it seemed as a rant, but I am deeply concerned that we're losing ground and that without raising curiosity, we're among the last to know what our ancestors gave to the world and what Wales is currently giving to the World."

Membership and dues were first addressed in the minutes of the 1934 meeting. Nineteen organizations were represented by delegates and dues were \$.25 for individuals and \$1 for organizations.

The first constitution, that of 1935, specified that "Any Welsh, Welsh-American or Welsh-Canadian church or social organization, in the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, in sympathy with the stated purpose of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association shall be eligible to membership therein, as well as individuals who qualify as herein stated." From the beginning, it was evident that emphasis seemed placed on organization membership since only delegates from organizations were authorized to vote at meetings.

The 1935 by-laws established "The annual dues of membership organization shall be \$1.00 payable in advance to the Association treasury. Such membership entitles the organization member to a delegate at the annual meeting of the Association and a voice and vote in its deliberations.

Individual membership, without voting privileges, may be secured on the payment of twenty-five (25) cents or more per year to the Association treasury.

Honorary life membership with full privilege will be accorded to any Welsh-American interested in the promotion of the work of the Association who shall contribute \$25.00 (or more) to the Association."

Thirty-six delegates attended the 1936 meeting. The Program listed 54 organization members including 26 Women's Welsh Clubs. The St. David's Society of Edmonton became the first Canadian organization member.

In 1941, the finance committee recommended that life membership fees be reduced from \$25 to \$10, that organization membership fees be increased from \$1 to \$5, and that individual membership fees be increased from \$.25 to \$1. All fees remained the same except for life membership fees that were reduced.

In 1947, a motion to raise life membership fees from \$10 to \$20 and organization and annual individual membership fees, currently \$1 and \$.25 respectively, to \$5 was tabled. The fee for individual members was raised from \$.25 to \$1.

Article III MEMBERSHIP of the 1958 Constitution simplified membership qualifications to "Any person of Welsh lineage" and expanded qualification to "any person or organization in full sympathy with the stated purpose". This Article also extended the vote to individual members. From the beginning, it was obvious that individual membership was not restricted to those with a Welsh ancestry. This article clearly verified this membership provision.

The By-Laws in the 1958 Constitution established the individual and organization annual membership dues as \$2, life membership for any organization or individual was set at \$10 or more, and any organization contributing \$25 or more was entitled to a Charter as a member organization. All dues were payable in advance.

Membership pins were available for \$1 at the 1961 National. The Program for the 1961 National listed dues as follows: Individual Annual \$2.00, Organizational Annual \$2.00 and Life Membership as \$10.00 or more. Any organization contributing \$25 or more was entitled to a Charter as a member organization. The finance committee at its meeting on Sept 1, 1961 agreed to recommend to the Trustees that the question of membership dues be studied to increase the Association's revenue. Alternative suggestions included: only annual memberships should be available, life memberships should be renewed every ten years, the fee for life membership should be raised to \$20 and present life members should be approached for a further donation. Membership committee recommendations at the 1961 Trustees meeting in Chicago, approved for further consideration, were that:

members should renew their annual dues on receipt of their membership card,
anyone two years in arrears should be removed from the mailing list,
life membership be for ten years only, at a fee of \$10,
only members in good standing be eligible to vote or hold offices in the NGGA,
non-members be removed from the mailing list every second year,
the Secretary and members of the membership committee be authorized to receive dues, and
sponsoring committees provide cards to identify on the mailing list whether a person has Welsh connections or is merely a visitor at one Gymanfa.

Recommendations were considered during the 1962 board of trustees meeting in Utica with approval of the procedure for renewal of annual dues and for the secretary and members of membership committee to accept dues. No change in life membership provisions or action was taken on eligibility for holding officer or trustee positions since membership was already, in principal, a requirement. The Board disapproved providing identity cards and deferred approval of a procedure for removal of delinquents pending clarification from the membership committee. In 2000, a three-chance policy was implemented for annual renewals. A first request for renewal was followed, if needed, with a reminder and final notice of suspension.

In 1965, **Jack Meadows** referred to Article III when expressing fear of a possible infiltration of undesirable persons into the Association's membership and suggested stricter controls. The Board did not feel there was a need for concern.

A suggestion, in 1965, that life members be encouraged to renew their life membership voluntarily to raise money led no where.

Article III on membership was changed in 1971 to add "as stated in the signed application for membership" between the words "Association" and "shall." The remaining part of the Article, regarding eligibility of organizational delegates and individuals in good standing to vote, was deleted. Concern was again expressed by **Jack Meadows** that "we were leaving ourselves wide open for any to join other than our own Welsh people." The President was confident that "we have enough strength in this organization toward proper membership".

Provisions regarding eligibility to vote were retained and expanded on in the 1978 Constitution. Authority was included to appoint a credentials committee to check membership status before entry into the Annual General Meeting. Proxy voting was not permitted.

The 1985 membership report indicating 1,210 life members in the United States with 92 in Canada led to questions at a 1986 meeting regarding the low Canadian membership. New President **David Thomas** was “hoping to find the reason and attempt to correct same for the low percentage of Canadian members.” He “asked the Canadian members of the trustees to think about this in the coming year and report back next year on their findings and suggestions.” A Canadian trustee “felt the currency was a factor, and additional motivation is needed.” **Owen Roberts** “expressed dismay at the small number of Canadians, but asked the group to take in consideration the great population difference.” He offered to investigate and report his findings next year and the president said he “will be expecting a report from all the Canadian Trustees.” **Owen Roberts** reported at a 1987 meeting that “he had contacted 14 organizations in Canada and was not pleased with the response but felt it did help to make contact and hopefully will bring some interest.” No details of the response were found in the minutes.

[Canadian membership has always been an unstated concern. There are sensitivities that no one wants to approach. There have been expressions that the term National is considered by Canadians to mean the United States and is a turn off. From the beginning, the term National has been part of the Association’s name and it is difficult to think the founders considered it restrictive. The United States, Canada and Wales are all nations. Another recent comment was that the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association in Canada is competition that reduces interest in the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association. This, also, is difficult to understand since there are tens upon tens of local gymanfaoedd in the United States, all that could be considered competition. The fact that, beginning in 1959, there have been ten Nationals spanning the width of Canada should be sufficient evidence of the inclusive nature of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

It may well be that the Canadian membership is a fair reflection of Welsh-Canadian population. This will not be known until ethnic census data from Canada becomes available.

Another unstated concern was the comparison of trustee representation in the United States and Canada. The 1958 Constitution authorized five trustees for Canada, nine for the United States East and three for the United States West for a total of seventeen. An additional three trustees were authorized for United States West in 1999. There was no apparent rationale governing the number of trustees and the number of members so, perhaps, none was even intended. Comparing trustees with 1998 reported membership shows that 2,427 members in the United States were represented by 15 trustees for a relationship of one trustee for each 161.8 members. For Canada, 155 members were represented by five trustees for a relationship of one trustee for each 31 members. In 1998, four Canadian trustees were from Ontario and one was from British Columbia.].

In this regard, it is interesting and informative to follow the attention paid to membership in the WNGGA by reviewing the activation and inactivation of the membership committee. The 1959 Constitution authorized the president to appoint committees including a membership committee. This was also authorized in the 1965 and 1971 Constitutions. A membership committee was not specified in the 1978 Constitution but the president was authorized to appoint any committee deemed necessary with the exception of the nominating committee. [Frankly, there were not many indications of a membership committee or any effort on membership by any committee. The secretary, and later the executive director, seemed to have had the principal interest in membership and to take actions to increase it.]

There seemed to be a lot of discussion about a membership committee during the late 1980’s that should have been resolved with the simple appointment of one. A long discussion on a membership committee at the 1990 mid-year meeting found the immediate past president reluctant to form another committee and questioned the constitutionality of another

committee. A motion adopted at that meeting resulted, finally, in approval, at the 1990 annual general meeting, of a very detailed amendment to the 1978 Constitution.

This amendment provided for a membership committee consisting of 12 members including the vice president as chairman. Committee members were divided into three classes beginning with members to be appointed at the 1990 annual meeting: “four (4) members of the First Class shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year; four (4) members of the Second Class shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years; and four (4) members of the Third Class shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. At each succeeding annual meeting, the successors to the class of members whose term expires shall be appointed to hold office for a term of three (3) years commencing on the day of the annual meeting. Vacancies shall be filled for an unexpired (term) by appointment of the President. The responsibility, duties, and operation of the committee shall be determined by a Code of Regulations to be adopted by the committee. Such Code of Regulations shall be subject to approval of the Board of Trustees. The Committee shall present an annual report at the annual meeting of the Trustees and also at the annual meeting of the members.”

There were many details about the make up of the committee but understandably, little on actual membership recruitment.

Chairman Vice President **Dr. Ellis Jones** reported approval of a “Functions” plan for the membership committee at the May 4, 1991 meeting in Niagara Falls, ON. Seven functions were:

To publicize benefits of annual and life membership in WNGGA.

To recommend any revision in membership requirements to the BOT.

To meet face-to-face at least once annually at the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu.

To prepare publicity information such as flyers, newspaper releases and other items for use in membership recruitment drive.

To plan on-going membership recruitment programs involving BOT but also other Welsh-related organizations.

In cooperation with local committee have responsibility for a membership recruitment display at the annual Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu. “Membership Table Attendants”

To submit an annual report.

The 1990 amendment was never fully implemented or successful. It was dropped from the 1994 Constitution when authority to appoint committees was returned to the president.

In 1992, **President Ellis Jones** suggested the need to change the dues structure and that a plan be developed to strengthen the bonds between the Welsh associated organizations and the WNGGA. This latter suggestion resulted in one of the more successful efforts in the membership arena. In 2000, there were 80 Associated Welsh Organizations (AWO's) and 109 non-Associated Welsh Organizations. By 2003, there were 105 AWO's. It is difficult to establish the impact on membership attributed to the work of AWO's, however, it cannot be adverse.

A 2 Sept. 1994 Executive Committee meeting recommended that, starting with the 1995 National, individual life memberships be increased to \$30 and that individual annual memberships be increased to \$7 so that the budget may be

balanced. Balancing the budget was dependent, to an extent, on receipt of \$5,100 from 170 new life members @\$30 and \$700 from 100 annual members.

As of July 31, 1999, there were 2,686 members (life-2,349 and annual-337). Of these, 295 life and 50 annual members had their mail returned as undeliverable. There was an increase of 100 members since August 1998.

Recommendations included:

that lists of attendees at the past five Nationals be gathered and non-members identified for a special mail membership campaign.

that the membership committee be included in the Constitution with general terms of reference.

that Board members have a higher profile at Nationals, staff the WNGGA membership table, and play a bigger part in recruiting new members.

Following the 1999 move of the International Headquarters to St. Peter, one of the first efforts was to update the membership list. A "Where Are They Now?" notebook was displayed during the 1999 National in Minneapolis in an effort to get correct addresses. Membership envelopes were included in registration packets sent to non-members.

That greater effort was needed on membership recruitment was evident when membership of 2686 in 1999 was compared with the 6500 names on the total registration list.

A lengthy discussion of membership at the Sept. 3, 1999 BOT meeting led to approval of a motion to establish a Membership Committee as a standing committee of the WNGGA with terms of reference for the committee's operation. A committee would be established to study the dues structure. Each new life member would be provided a membership certificate. A short-term action plan included designation of Sept 1, 1999-Sept. 1, 2000 as the WNGGA Membership Year. Action would be taken to correct and continuously update membership lists, conduct a mail campaign, gain higher visibility for the WNGGA at every National; and to implement a long-term action plan.

Further discussion resulted in decisions to send renewal notices from the International Headquarters when annual memberships expire and to have the dues committee report at the mid-year 2000 meeting in Waterloo, Canada. Further consideration would be given to awarding a (Gymanfa Ganu) CD to life members. A past suggestion was revived to give reduced registration fees to life members and their families.

One of the greatest bargains offered by the WNGGA was the \$20 and later \$30 fee for a life membership. This was a great bargain for the life member but a poor situation as far as providing financial support for WNGGA operations. The \$30 fee lagged way behind that offered in other similar organizations with some establishing life time fees at 10 to 15 times the annual dues.

At the mid-year 2000 meeting, **Ed Field**, Chairman of the Dues Structure Committee reported on results of their study. The committee recommended an increase from \$7 to \$10 for annual membership and an increase in life membership from \$30 to \$150. Ed explained the rationale for the recommendations and some of the unique problems involved. There were questions on how to handle life memberships held jointly by couples. The absence of family memberships was noted and the committee recommended that a Family Life membership be offered for \$225.

The Board of Trustees approved a motion to increase annual membership dues to \$10 from \$7 effective January 1, 2001. After considerable discussion, a motion carried, on a vote of 12 to 8, to increase life membership to \$150 from \$30 and to \$100 for those over 65. Provisions were also established for payment of life fees over a period of three years, also effective January 1, 2001. A motion was approved to have those couples currently listed as life members become individual life members at no additional cost. With approval of these motions, the board agreed to submit them to the members for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

At the 2000 annual general meeting, Chairman **Ed Field** of the Dues Review Committee (members **Danny Evan Proud** and **Berwyn Jones**) reported on proposed changes in dues approved by the board of trustees. A motion carried to increase individual dues from \$7 to \$10 effective January 1, 2001. There was lengthy discussion on the subject of life membership dues. A frequently asked question was "What does one get for his/her money?" In response, **President Reese** pointed out the tangible benefits. However, he emphasized "the difficulty of explaining the real benefits of WNGGA membership since the real benefits are the intangibles (expressed in the WNGGA Purpose) we all find so important." The fact that most attending the meeting were life member would seem to prove this. [A point could have been made that the majority became life members when \$20 meant more that it does today and that the increase in life membership dues was only an adjustment reflecting today's money compared to yesterday's money.] Discussion also covered a life membership badge. One asked if the committee completed a cost analysis or did it just pick a number? The answer to both questions was no. The committee did not complete a cost benefit analysis. However, it did consider life membership fees in other similar organizations. Another decision was to allow for adjustment for age and installment payment not always found in similar organizations. [**There** can be no factual cost benefit analysis for an attraction as filled with emotion as a Gymanfa Ganu.] A motion was made and seconded that the individual life membership fee be raised to \$150 US and to \$100 US for those over 65 with payment permitted in three or two installments as appropriate. This change was to be effective January 1, 2001. A motion to eliminate installment payment was defeated. The original motion passed with a vote of 39 to 27. In a later memo, dated December 1, 2000, the executive Director reported 7 new AWO's and 22 new individual annual, 131 new individual life and 6 organization life members. The large number of individual life was the result of people taking advantage of the \$30 individual life membership fee before the new fee went into effect 1 January 2001.

A 2001 motion was adopted to change the provisions for installment payment of life membership fees. For those up to 65 years in age, payment of an initial \$50 and \$50 at the 5 and 10 year anniversaries was permitted. For those over 65, payment of an initial \$50 with payment of \$50 at the five year anniversary was permitted.

Of the 12 recommendations made by the membership recruitment committee at the mid-year 2002 meeting, only three contained anything new. A suggestion that an annual family membership be offered at \$15 remained to be acted upon. Recommendations that WNGGA Geographic Districts be established with assigned responsibilities to trustees and that Associated Welsh Organizations (AWO's) be asked to help implement WNGGA recruitment plans remain to be acted upon. Action on all recommendations was delayed until the meeting in Harrisburg where little was accomplished.

Effective 1 October 2002, the WNGGA started providing a 20% discount coupon to each new member of the Association. The coupon may be used by the new member to purchase any one item form the WNGGA Publications/Recordings Price List. The coupons are good for one year with the expiration date included on the front of the coupon

In 2002, the Roundtable meeting was changed to a summit meeting of the AWO's and a reported 60 representatives were present. The schedule for meetings was also changed to alternate years.

A membership survey was conducted in May-June 2003. There was a 45% response to the 2700 survey forms distributed. Selected subjects elicited responses such as the following:

50% of membership 70 or over.

91% of Welsh descent.

58% can sing Welsh words in hymns.

77% traveled in Wales.

84% attended a Gymanfa Ganu

71% favored regional events

69% opposed a change of the National date.

Membership tables were sort of ad hoc before 1998. Volunteer trustees showed up or did not show up to staff the table and there was an absence of continuity and attractive membership bait. An organized membership table was started in Minneapolis in 1998 with WNGGA literature and publications as attractions. The membership table at the 2002 National in Harrisburg was very active. The combination sale of a WNGGA hymnal with the phonetic *Welsh Hymns for English Singers* was a popular item and attracted new members.

A review of the Constitution led to proposed amendments to be presented to the 2002 annual general meeting in Harrisburg. Board of Trustees action on proposals relative to ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP and ARTICLE 14 ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE, prior to the annual meeting, resulted in return of the following to the Constitution Review Committee for further consideration:

Proposal 2 would have added "Welsh" before "organization" to limit membership to Welsh organizations.

Proposal 4 would have provided for cessation of and expulsion from membership.

Proposals 13 and 14 would have permitted voting by any individual member who paid dues for the fiscal year prior to the annual meeting and proxy voting for any extraordinary meeting.

Proposal 3 defining and adding Associated Welsh Organizations to membership was approved by the membership at the 2002 annual general meeting.

ASSOCIATED WELSH ORGANIZATIONS (AWO's)

One example of success may indicate what can be done to increase membership through a planned and concentrated effort with specifically assigned responsibilities, designated target quotas, and frequent required reporting. From its very beginning, the WNGGA recognized the importance of Welsh organizations in unifying interest of the Welsh of North America. When Executive Director **Dr. Ellis J. Jones** assumed office in 1998, he initiated a campaign to increase the number of member Associated Welsh Organizations (AWO's) on this continent. He felt strongly that this would add a sense of cohesiveness to the Welsh this side of the Atlantic and overcome the, sometimes, all too pervasive sense of "them versus us." As of October 2003, there were 108 AWO's, an increase of 39 since 1998, with 88 in the United States, 16 in Canada and 4 overseas (2-Wales and one each in Australia and New Zealand). If the same percentage improve-

ment (56.5) could be applied to the 2000 purified membership list of 2,735, the WNGGA would be reaching 4,280 members today. Actually, the number of member organizations (108) is four short of doubling that of 1994.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Care must be taken with all membership statistics. Prior to 1998, all membership reports were to a degree suspect. Purification of lists was not always tried or successfully completed. Failure to report changes of address, expiration of memberships unreported deaths and, perhaps, some optimism all distorted membership data. Major work to purify membership lists began in 1998 with early results of removing 395 names from the *HWYL* mailing list. Reasons for removal included deceased, moved and whatever else caused mailings to be returned. This is a constant on going process that is always reactive based on information received in the International Headquarters.

While problems still exist, greater reliability can be assigned to membership data since 1998. However, membership statistics do indicate growth and relative participation.

Not all annual membership reports are included and only reported data, often in a different format, is reported. Only those showing a trend in increased membership and its magnitude are included. Where possible, membership is indicated by membership type-individual (I) or organization (O), category-life (L) or annual (A) and distribution totals only-United States (US), Canada (C) and Overseas (O).

MEMBERSHIP

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>		<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>		
		<u>IND</u>	<u>ORG</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>O</u>
1934	19		19			
1935	52		52			
1936	65		65	64	1	
1940	95	23	72			
1952	613					
	L 391					
	A 222					
1973	844+			694	50	
	L 744					
	A 100+					
1977	L 952			856	87	9
1980	L 1114			1012	95	7
1985	1363	1347	16			
	L (1310)			1210	92	8

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>		<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>		
		<u>IND</u>	<u>ORG</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>O</u>
	L (2030)	1987	43	I/L 1850	131	6
	A (48)					
1994	2397	2341	56			
	(2268)			2129	128	11
	A (73)			64	9	
	O (56)			<u>45</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>
			TOTAL	2238	146	13
1998	2598			2427	155	16
	2341					
	L (2054)					
	A (287)					
2001	2847					
	L (2493)					
	A (354)					
2000 (Apr)	2,993					
	L (2,827)	2,727	100	I/L 2,553	146	28
	A (166)					
2002	2,820					
	L/L (2,555)					
	I/A (164)					
	O/L (101)					
2003*	3,000					
	I/L (2,695)					
	I/A (200)					
	O/L (105)					
	2895 Ind. Members			2709	156	30

A 439 increase in life memberships since July 1999 was undoubtedly caused by the announced proposed increase in life membership fees effective 1 January 2001. Fluctuations in annual memberships were the result of third notice suspensions of annual membership (140) and the increased life membership fees.

*Reported total, as of 31 Mar, included both life and annual members but did not breakout individual and organization members. Distribution of total life and annual members indicated above with 93.6% from the United States, 5.3% from Canada and 1.03% from overseas. In the United States, 63% of life members came from ten states: OH, PA, NY, CA, MN, WI, FL, WA, AZ and TX. In Canada, 62% of the life members came from ON with 20% from BC.

The 30 June 2003 report indicated total individual membership as 2841, a reduction of 54 members. This is a good example of the movement within the membership files. Forty-four (44) names were read during the memorial service in Richmond as reported losses since the last National. Combined with unreported losses, whatever membership gains occur, some are constantly offset with losses.

APPENDIX L

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

[The financial condition of the Association has been a major concern from its very beginning. The words in that very simple 1930 Program are as appropriate today as they were then. “The opportunity avails for all who desire to participate in the work of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association through the medium of financial contributions—please forward checks to W. B. Jones, Treasurer, 408 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.” The only real change is the address of WNGGA Treasurer **Huw S. Williams** at 2925 Champagne Court, Cummings, GA 30041

This appendix reviews the growth of financial operations in the Association from the time when an individual paid dues of \$.25 to today when annual operations are financed with tens of thousands of dollars. It briefly summarizes the main elements of the WNGGA financial picture and identifies untapped potential sources of support.

Traditional conservatism, so admirable with personnel financial management, has always had an important influence on financial management of Association. Conservatism is found throughout the Association in its dues, life membership fees, endowment funds, registration fees, publication list prices and the division of proceeds from the Nationals. A restriction placed on one of the main elements of the Association’s assets, use only of the interest gained from endowment fund investments, protects the corpus of the fund while placing an inhibiting rein on the Association’s daily operations. The main sources of operating funds are income from dues, from the sale of publications and from the Association’s share of proceeds of the Nationals. The fact that these main sources fluctuate and do not provide an assured annual income is the main problem for the management of the Association. This situation led to the establishment of The WNGGA Annual Fund in 2001 in hopes of a stable resource for daily operations.]

During the twelfth meeting (1940) in Detroit, a motion “To ask President Ellis to appoint a Finance Committee of five members to improve the financial status of the Association” passed. Only one of the committee’s 1941 recommendations regarding the dues structure (See App. K), that to reduce life membership fees from \$25 to \$10, was approved. [From a distance, this seemed an odd way to “improve the financial status of the Association” the stated purpose of appointing the committee.]

The finance committee seemed to die during the suspended years not to be revived until a new committee was appointed in 1956.

The first located set of minutes for a meeting of the finance committee, appointed by the NEB at the 1956 meeting in Cleveland, covered its meeting of Sept. 1, 1961. Its following recommendations were approved at the annual general meeting:

[As with all reports of this type, it is impossible to measure its effect on the financial resources of the Association. However, it did identified areas that needed a tightening of controls.]

That the question of membership dues be studied, with a view to increasing the Association’s revenue.

That the trustees authorize the treasurer to hire the services of a CPA to audit the Association’s book annually, at a fee of up to \$25. **Judge Fred Evans** said he was fully qualified to do this and offered his services without charge. This offer was gladly accepted.

That the trustees urge every sponsoring committee to take advantage of facilities available from state, provincial or civic authorities to carry out mailings to the Association's membership without charge.

That the Association's mailing list be revised annually following each annual gymanfa.

That the trustees keep a closer contact with a sponsoring committee, as laid down in the Constitution, and dissuade them from any unnecessary expenditure.

That all monies received by other officers of the Association be forwarded to the treasurer without delay, especially toward the end of the fiscal year

The essence of the above recommendations: increasing income, reducing expenses and controlling expenditures are as appropriate today as they were 47 years ago.

The basic components of WNGGA financial management are covered in alphabetical sequence.

The Annual Fund

The Board of Trustees established the Annual Fund in 2001 in order gain the necessary resources "to continue its outreach and expand its focus." This action recognized that the Association's annual operating expenses were exceeding annual income creating a serious cash flow problem. An additional source of income was needed to protect the reserved endowment fund and the corpus of the investment account. The dates of the annual fund drive were set to coincide with the fiscal year 1 July through 30 June. Four specific levels of giving were designated for special recognition:

Y Cymoedd Gwyrdd (Green Valleys Level)–\$100 to \$499

Y Genhinen Bedr (Daffodil Level)–\$500 to \$1,499

Y Ddraig Goch (Red Dragon Level)–\$1,500 to \$4,999

Y Delyn Aur (Golden Harp Level)–\$5,000.

Each contributor reaching one of the levels during the fiscal year would receive a specially designed certificate and a personal letter from the WNGGA president. Direct contributions sent to the International Headquarters and Memorial, Honoring and Special Gifts to upcoming National Gymanfa Ganu venues would qualify for the special recognition.

For fiscal year 2001-2002, 227 contributors gave a total of \$20,319 to the Annual Fund. Contributors by level were *Y Cymoedd Gwyrdd* (Green Valleys Level)–51; *Y Genhinen Bedr* (Daffodil Level)–5; *Y Ddraig Goch* (Red Dragon Level)–1; and *Y Delyn Aur* (Golden Harp Level)–1. There were 169 other appreciated contributors.

For fiscal year 2002-2003, there was a 55% increase in the number of contributors (352). However, contributions of \$17,625.05 were 13.26% lower than last year.

This important source of income will require increased emphasis as the WNGGA readies to face the challenges of the future.

Bequests

Estate bequests have been an important source of income for the Association.

1978-\$500 **Col. E. G. Thomas.**

1985-\$1,000 **Eluned Thomas.**

1986-\$250 **Esther W. Elias**

1987-\$1,000 **Elma Jones**

1993-\$10,332 **Elizabeth Griffiths**

\$10,000 **Chris Edwards**

1999 -\$5,000 **Dr. Phillips G. Davies**

2000-\$55,000 **Dr. Carlton Jones Lake.**

Budget

The first WNGGA budget was developed for 1994-95. Budgets have been effective in forecasting expenditures but less effective in developing income or controlling expenses.

Contributions

From its earliest days, contributions have been an important source of income for the WNGGA. In most cases, the source of these contributions was not identified. Where possible, they were identified in the minutes. Three recent contributions, unusual in nature, do deserve mention.

The first transfer of stocks to benefit the WNGGA occurred in 1999 when **Mrs. Marion Hoffman** transferred 100 shares of stock, valued at \$23 a share, to the WNGGA to support the 2000 National in Ottawa. Fortunately, following President **Reese's** delayed action, the stock sold at \$35 a share for a gain of \$1,200. The fact that a loss could just as well have occurred, which the president acknowledged would have been his responsibility, led to a policy "Guidelines and Procedures for Gifts and Gifts Received."

The WNGGA has been unsuccessful in even starting action to gain support from the 149 corporations with operations in the United States, Canada and Wales. **President Reese** did not consider his objective, to get ten corporations to each support a National with \$2,000 in advertising for a total of \$20,000, unrealistic. He did point out that \$20,000 could well cover deficits that were creeping into the annual budgets. In 1999, hoping to lead by example, he and his wife **Faye**, calling themselves "un-incorporated sponsors", committed to sponsoring the next five Nationals (2000-2004) each with \$1,000 contributions.

Following the lead of an anonymous contributor who donated \$3,000, he and his wife also committed \$500 a year for six years in support of a hoped for WNGGA television documentary.

Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund was established by a resolution proposed during the 1959 annual meeting in Toronto. President **John G. Roberts** enlarged on the idea of an endowment fund and the resolution was approved. At the 1960 AGM in San Francisco, Roberts reported he had discussed the setting up of an endowment fund with many people. He expressed the hope “that once it was satisfactorily established, it would be sufficient to pay the expenses of a National Gymanfa.”

John G. Roberts was the first Chairman of Endowment Fund serving 1961-1977. Successor chairs were

1977-1978- **Judge Elwyn Jenkins**

1978-2000- **Paul E. Stevens, Esq.**

2000- **Huw S. Williams**

During the 1961 BOT meeting, **John G. Roberts**, as Chairman of the Endowment Committee, “sought permission to increase his committee and also authority to outline the object of the endowment when appealing for funds. He and his committee felt that the first vital need was to interest Welsh youth of North America in the Gymanfa Ganu, to educate them in music generally, and if possible offer scholarships to them. If sufficient funds were raised, the scope of the endowment fund could then be broadened, but in any event only the income from the endowment fund would be used.” He received full authority to proceed. In spite of this clear statement and other definitions of the Endowment Fund and its use, there continued to be some confusion on the subject.

At the BOT meeting of 1962, Roberts reported that he had not gone to the expense of publishing a brochure on the endowment fund ‘until certain internal matters in the N.G.G.A. had been crystallized.” He reported \$40 in the Endowment Fund at present.

Beginning in 1963, the Program listed the Chairman of the N.G.G.A. Endowment Fund as a national officer. Ways of increasing the endowment fund were discussed during a 1963 BOT meeting. These included asking every Gymanfa Ganu Association in the United States and Canada to put on a special gymanfa to benefit the endowment fund or to arrange a special contribution for the same purpose. Once again the purpose of the fund was described: to establish scholarships for young people, such as alternating year music scholarships for a young person from Wales and North America and for any other purpose approved by the BOT. It was stated repeatedly that only income from the fund would be disbursed. **John Roberts** felt that eventually such income could be sufficient to make the NGGA entirely independent of sponsoring organizations. One possibility suggested was to change the breakdown of the net proceeds from the annual National to provide 40% to the sponsoring organization, 40% to the NGGA general fund and 20% to the endowment fund.

Assurance was received that the operation of the endowment fund would not present any complications with the Internal Revenue Service. [There was always concern over a non-profit organization making profits from its activities. This was never prohibited as long as profits so generated were used to serve the stated purpose of the organization that justified the not for profit 501 (c) (3) status received from the Internal Revenue Service.

The Cleveland 1969 Program contained an ENDOWMENT FUND SPECIAL that seems to have been the first real publicity on the endowment fund. It made a “special appeal to every Welshman, every Welsh Society and all local Gymanfa Ganu Associations and friends in the United States and Canada, who are interested in the Heritage, the Traditions and the Culture of Wales, to make a donation or contribution to the Endowment Fund of the Association.” It appealed “to each Welsh organization or local Gymanfa Ganu to sponsor a special program of their choice for the purpose of raising

funds for the Endowment Fund. All contributions received will be held intact, only the income from the fund will be used as may be determined by the National Board of Trustees. The name of each contributor and the amount will be recorded in the permanent Endowment Fund Record Book of the Association.” The appeal also encouraged memorials and bequests in wills and announced that all donations, gifts, bequests or memorials would be tax exempt.

In 1970, the name was changed to “The Judge David G. Jenkins Endowment Fund”. This action was revoked 1971 [not in any way a reflection against Judge Jenkins] as being inappropriate as many would be donating to the fund. At the 1971 annual general meeting, **John G. Roberts** presented a “beautifully bound leather binder arranged with all the names, amounts and location of each member who had given since Sept 4, 1970. This was to be a permanent record.

In 1986, a separate committee was formed to administer the scholarship/grants program. **Paul E. Stevens** continued to be responsible for endowment fund finance and investment, advising the chair of the scholarship/grants committee of the amount available each year for that purpose. Paul continued to do this until 2000 when he retired and the responsibilities for the finance/investment aspects of the endowment fund were included in those of Treasurer **Huw S. Williams**.

The growth of the endowment fund was slow but steady. Even without a drive for contributions, it grew to \$615 by the 1966 National. By the 1967 National, it had grown to \$1,899.50. In 1970, the fund reached \$3,527.40. The first disbursement of \$50 was made to the newly organized Welsh American Youth (WAY) which continued to be the principal beneficiary of the fund until 1984 when the scholarship program began.

Growth continued through the years until 1999 when losses started because of market conditions.

1973-\$10,385.51	1997-\$112,736.49
1975-\$14,012.12	1998-\$115,011.77
1984-\$61,342.70	1999-\$112,350.94
1988-\$89,386.16	2000-\$109,336.84
1989-\$96,204.01	2001-\$ 98,044.21
1994-\$101,276.91	2002-\$ 92,689.15
1995-\$102,736.83	2003-\$ 99,388.20
1996-\$106,408.11	

In Sep 2001 at San Jose, the treasurer reported that the endowment fund had dropped from \$109,336.84 to \$98,044.21 for a loss of \$11,292.63 due to market conditions. The report included:

Receipts	\$18,038.39	Disbursements	\$11,375.55
Interest	(\$ 8,831.40)	Bank charges	(\$ 23.55)
Contributions	(\$200.00)	2000 scholarship	(\$ 2,000.00)
Matured CD	(\$9,000.98)	Bal. of 1999 scholarship	(\$ 500.00)
		2001 scholarships	(\$ 8,850.00)

There was a current \$21,093.15 balance available for scholarships.

Losses continued, as reported in 2002 at Harrisburg. Investments initially purchased for \$91,627.85 declined in value to \$72,423.99 for a loss of \$19,203.86. The \$92,689.15 endowment fund included \$72,423.99 in investments and \$20,265.16 in the money market account available for scholarships/grants. The \$6,384.01 income to the endowment fund almost equaled \$6,800 in disbursements for scholarships/grants.

As of 30 June 2003, the endowment fund totaled \$98,074.70 and the loss in value of investments due to market conditions was \$13,000.76 for a recovery of \$6,203.10. By 30 Sept 03, the endowment fund totaled \$99,338.20 (MMA available for scholarships/grants-\$10,384.39, accounts receivable-\$10,000 and investments-\$78,953.81). By 15 November 2003, recovery from the investment loss due to market conditions continued, the loss reduced to \$12,674.04 for a recovery of \$6,529.82. As of 31 December 2003, the loss was reduced to \$10,033.59, a recovery of \$9,170.27.

Financial Reports (Selected)

One of the difficulties encountered when attempting to present a comprehensive and understandable picture of WNGGA finances is the variety of report formats and terms. Clarity and completeness governed the selection of certain reports to present a valid picture. Explanatory narrative is added where necessary. Reporting covers three 25-year periods for the 72 years in which Nationals were held. Summary details are provided for the first two periods with four detailed reports for the final period 1979-2003. A statement of WNGGA total assets closes out each period.

1929-1953-The first financial report (**1936**) showed **receipts** of \$323.18, **expenses** of \$221.20 for a **balance** of \$101.98. By **1947**, the balance on hand had risen to \$2,236.13, benefiting during the year from receipts of \$620 in life membership dues, a \$500 donation toward hymnal costs, and the \$720.82 share from the 1947 Akron National. The balance on hand beginning period (**BOHBP**) for **1948** was \$3,745.82, **expenses** were \$3,732.81 for a balance on hand end period (**BOHEP**) of \$13.01. The major expense was \$2,600 for the printing of 10,000 hymnals. The balance on hand improved in 1949 to \$1,520 with the help of hymnal sales. At the **1953** annual meeting in Rochester, balances on hand of \$522.35 in the general fund checking account. \$247.35 in the hymnal fund checking account and \$2,292.89 in the hymnal fund savings account brought **total NGGA dollar assets to \$3,062.59**.

1954-1978. Total assets as of **31 July 1963** were \$8,434.86 including balance on hand in checking account of \$4,853.71 and accounts receivable and value of publications on hand of \$3,581.25. A loss in net worth reported by the finance committee in Pittsburgh in 1965 led to numerous suggestions including increasing the registration fee to \$2, greater control over the venue committee, a voluntary renewal of life memberships and more emphasis on raising contributions to the endowment fund. One suggestion, that of stricter control and enforcement of the registration process, resulted from attendance of 3,500 in Philadelphia with only 1,043 registrations. Other suggestions including special collections during the Noson Lawen and evening sessions of the Gymanfa Ganu. By **1966**, the **net worth** of the Association had risen to \$9,484.83. During the period 1974 to 1978, the balance on hand end of period (BOHEP), reported at the annual meetings, increased from \$9,010.66 to \$28,968.52. During the annual meeting of 1978, it was reported that \$6,096.79 had been contributed toward the cost of the new hymnal to become the 1979 Jubilee Hymnal.

The treasurer's report, as of **31 July 1978**, showed a **BOHBP** of \$21,969.42, **receipts** of \$11,514.51 (including \$1,867.23-dues, \$1,527.34-sales of hymnals and phonetics, \$226.74-stationary for Ottawa, \$936.40-interest, \$975.24-from Ottawa, \$5,981.94-donations to the hymnal fund), **disbursements** of \$4,515.81 for a **BOHEP** of \$28,968.52. The BOHEP was distributed with \$21,398.26 in savings, \$1,588.22 in checking and \$5,981.94 in the new hymnal fund. The financial

report for the Endowment Fund showed **BOHBP** of \$8,972.97, **receipts** \$2,413.15, **disbursement** of a \$500 grant to WAY for a **BOHEP** of \$20,886.12 including \$10,000 in bonds. Total dollar assets as of 31 July 1978 were \$49,854.64.

1979-2003. By the July 1979 end of the fiscal year, the BOHEP in the general fund had risen to \$30,617.59 and that of the endowment fund to \$22,681.55. Donations for the new hymnal reached \$21,987.21 against a cost of \$31,076.56. The 1980, the BOHEP dropped to \$18,438.81 with the disbursement of \$27,226.71 for the new hymnals. At the 1986 meetings in Columbus, the BOHEP of \$25,762.71 in the general fund when added to the BOHEP of \$82,739.34 in the endowment fund brought total dollar assets to \$108,501.95. By 1995, total assets had grown to \$165,573.68 (general fund-\$50,330.85. endowment fund-\$102,736.83, equipment \$7,428 and inventory-\$5,078). Detailed WNGGA financial reports are carried in the body of the History. Four example reports, Columbus 1986, Ottawa 2000, San Jose 2001 and Richmond, BC 2003 illustrate the financial activity of the Association during recent years.

WNGGA FINANCIAL REPORT

Columbus 1986

Checking Account			
	Balance on Hand Beginning Period	<u>\$ 600.38</u>	
Receipts			
	Hymnal sales	\$5,664.47	
	Dues	2,895.00	
	Montreal share	1,866.00	
	Contributions	310.00	
			<u>\$10,735.47</u>
Expenses			
	Rental	\$ 900.00	
	Postage	1,197.07	
	Printing	3,599.78	
	Gratuities	700.00	
	Nat. Pres. Exp.	166.95	
	Advertising	288.70	
	Shipping	213.26	
	Insurance	150.00	
	Telephone	245.44	
	Scholarship	500.00	
	Misc.	87.00	
			<u>8,048.20</u>
	Checking Account Balance on Hand End Period		\$ 3,287.65
Money Market Account			
	Balance on Hand Beginning Period	<u>\$34,917.25</u>	
Deposits			
	Interest	\$1,368.43	
	Dues	378.00	
	Hymnal sales	489.88	
	Misc.	321.50	
			<u>2,557.81</u>
Disbursements			
	To End. Fund	<u>15,000.00</u>	
	Money Market Balance on Hand End Period		\$22,475.06

When the checking account and Money Market Account balances on hand are added to the endowment fund balance on hand of \$82,739.24, the total dollar net worth of the WNGGA was \$108,501.95 (for the first time in excess of \$100,000).

WNGGA FINANCIAL REPORT

Ottawa 2000

A recap of income and expense activity is provided only to indicate the type transactions that occur during the year. Disposition of income and application of expenses is accomplished within the memorial hymnal fund, the money market account and the endowment fund. The end result found the BOHEP of the various accounts as follows: Checking-\$1,884.84 Memorial Hymnal Fund-\$12,878.56, Money Market-\$14,580.30, Endowment Fund-\$109,602.84 and Venue Loans-\$15,000 for a total WNGGA net worth, not including office equipment and furniture, supplies and publications inventory, of \$153,946.54.

Income		\$153,007.37
	Taxes	\$ 152.95
	Dues	7,337.23
	Contributions	2,370.00
	Publication sales	19,669.51
	Columbus venue share	19,345.28
	Minneapolis mailing	5,077.19
	Interest	1,103.11
	Roundtable breakfast	657.50
	Bequests	61,128.82
	Other venue income	35,946.14
	Refund receipts	303.14
	Refund losses	- 83.50
Expenses		\$ 51,191.58
	Headquarters	27,585.53
	Committee	3,010.87
	Publications	8,522.55
	Venue	682.48
	Roundtable breakfast	635.40
	Advertising	1,728.00
	Other	9,028.75

WNGGA Financial Report

San Jose 2001

WNGGA assets grew in 2001 to \$241,589.71, the total of:

Endowment Fund	\$98,044.21	(\$21,093.15 available for scholarships)
Hymnal Fund	11,456.23	
Investments	65,000.00	
Venue Advances	10,000.00	
Inventory	47,533.00	
Other*	7,069.65	
Cash	2,901.31	
Liabilities	(414.69)	

*Equipment, furniture and supplies

As of 30 June 2001, there was a loss in value of \$14,676.79 in endowment fund investments purchased for \$91,627.85 due to a market decline. Losses of \$14, 159.98 for the year and a projected budget shortfall of \$14,365 reopened discussions on seeking corporate support and increased donations from the membership. The registration fee for Harrisburg was raised to \$25 with \$10 allocated to the national treasury,

The treasurer's report for 2002 included income of \$63,923.73 with expenses of \$81,110.28 for a loss during the year of \$17,186.55.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Dues	\$ 3,019.00	Headquarters	\$53,265.92
Contributions	16,200.60	Committees	1,438.80
Publications	14,134.94	Publications	11,200.06
Venue	21,345.00	Venue	2,075.22
Miscellaneous	9,224.19	Other	13,130.28

By this time, legal costs had risen to \$12,101.03 partially offset with \$7,033 in contributions to the legal defense fund. Total assets of \$235,101.61 included \$5,919.81-cash/checking account, \$92,689.15-endowment fund, \$55,000-investments, \$5,000-venue advance, \$69,423 publications inventory and \$7,069.65-equipment, furniture and supplies. A liability of \$519.95 reduced total assets to \$234,581.66.

WNGGA Financial Report

Richmond, BC 2003

(Modified Format)

	<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Dues		\$4,159.75	Headquarters	\$52,105.34
Ind/An	(\$1,720.24)		ExDir	(\$ 4,000.00)
Ind/L	(2,050.00)		Travel	(1,535.74)
Org/L	(389.51)		Staff pay	(25,226.65)
			FICA etc.	(2,140.01)
Contributions		\$35,364.86	Utilities, sup, pos,	(17,001.46)
End Fund	(\$15,550.98)		ins, rent	
An Fund	(8,362.55)		Other	(2,201.48)
NA Doc.	(500.00)		Off/com.	\$ 3,135.58
Leg Def.	(2,605.00)			
Unres.	(8,346.33)			
Publications		\$10,827.99	Publications/Rec's	\$ 9,776.27
Venue		\$ 7,537.94	Venue	\$ 8,482.36
Harrisburg	(\$ 5,532.00)		Harrisburg)	(\$3,581.93)
Richmond	(2,005.94)		Richmond	(\$ 4,374.13)
			Niagara F.	(526.30)
Other		\$10,463.53	Other	\$17,483.04
Interest	(\$ 6,138.53)		Scholarship	(\$ 5,976.00)
Other	(4,325.00)		Legal	(6,953.00)
			Adv.	(3,741.00)
			WNGGA Fliers	(635.00)
			Other	(178.04)
TOT. INCOME		\$68,354.07	TOT. EXPENSES	\$90,982.59
		LOSS	\$22,628.52	

Legal costs due to the ridiculous suit against the WNGGA totaled \$24,295. Contributions of \$7,920 to the legal defense fund reduced this loss to \$16,375.

As of 30 June 2003, total WNGGA assets of \$214,975.40, less liabilities of \$340.49, included the following:

Cash/checking	\$ 2,518.56
Petty cash	1,921.44
Income transfer	600.18
MM scholarship	9,447.61*
Investment account	40,000.00
Endowment fund	78,627.09
Venue advance	4,929.92
Equip,furn,sup	7,507.60
Publications inv.	<u>69,423.00</u>
Total Assets	\$214,975.40

* \$10,000 loaned to General Fund

Insurance

The first liability insurance was purchased in 1988 through the Royal Insurance Co. The annual premium was \$1,360.

Insurance coverage purchased in 2001 included the following policies:

\$200,000 bonding for the treasurer and executive director with a premium of \$219 per year.

\$1,000,000 officer and director liability with a premium of \$890 per year.

Property and general liability-personal property \$15,000, storage location-\$35,000, general liability-\$1,000,000 with the premium set at \$796 per year.

Workers compensation employee liability \$100,000 each employee and \$100,000 each incident with the premium based on payroll.

Investment

The first investment (of \$5,000) was authorized during a 1976 BOT meeting. The WNGGA investment portfolio (endowment fund) has provided over \$100,000 to the highly successful WNGGA Scholarship/Grants program. Income is maintained in a money market account available for awarding of scholarships and grants.

Not For Profit Status

The United States Internal Revenue Service granted 501 (c) (3) recognition to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association in 1961. The major benefit of this action, for the Association and its members in the United States, was the granting of tax deductibility coverage to contributions of all types made to the WNGGA. The denial of tax deductibility to contributions from Canadian members undoubtedly affects contributions from that source.

Planned Giving

Planned Giving is one of the most popular solicitation techniques in use today. Specific forms of Planned Giving such as gifts of securities, real estate and personal property; life insurance programs; testamentary bequests; and trusts of many types may be more attractive to the WNGGA membership. With the exception of an occasional end of the year notice in *HWYL*, the WNGGA has not really promoted Planned Giving. None of the bequests to the WNGGA can be directly related to any effort to promote Planned Giving. [If the number of these type solicitations I receive is any indication, they must be considered reasonably successful. A more direct approach, personally addressed to each member and friend, may produce surprising results.]

Proceeds From Selected Nationals

1929-1953. In 1934, the division of net proceeds from Nationals was set at 60/40 percentage with the advantage to the venue committee. The first local committee financial report was presented at the annual meeting of September 1, 1935 following approval of the Association's first Constitution and By-Laws. The report showed total **receipts** of \$2,110.79, **disbursements** of \$1,577.84 and a **surplus** of \$532.95. The sum of \$34.50 was deducted from the 40% share (\$213.18) due the national treasury to pay unpaid bills from the initial gymanfaoedd (1931-32) in Niagara Falls, NY. The 1937 Johnstown National produced \$237.86 for the NGGA treasury. The 1938 Pittsburgh National ended with a \$59.12 deficit that was paid by life member **John Lloyd** of Braddock, PA. The increase in costs of a National was becoming apparent in 1948 at Detroit. **Receipts** of \$5,027.62 and **disbursements** of \$3,495 left a net **surplus** of \$1,532 with 40% (\$612.80) sent to the NGGA treasury. The largest receipt in the NGGA treasury from a National, during this period, was that of \$1,333.63 from the Canton, OH 1950 National.

1954-1978. The Third Western Regional Gymanfa Ganu held in San Francisco produced \$400 for the national treasury. At the 1958 annual meeting, a suggestion from **Ann Davies Thomas** that the net proceeds from a National be divided 40/60 % with the advantage to the national treasury led to its adoption on a vote of 23 to 11. It was at this meeting that Canadian trustees **Douglas C. Jones** and **Rev. J. Humphreys Jones** expressed the view that "the Gymanfa should be sponsored for its own purposes and not for any profit for a local organization." The first time the new division applied was for the 1959 National in Toronto when the 60% to the national treasury amounted to \$4,048.31 Canadian. A reported loss of \$750 occurred at the 1962 Western Regional in Seattle. A 1963 suggestion that the proceeds from Nationals to the national treasury be divided with 40% to the general fund and 20% to the endowment fund was referred to study and never implemented. In spite of objections, the split of net proceeds from the Nationals remained at 60/40percentage with 60% going to the national treasury until 1978 when it was changed to 50/50 %.

1979-2003. The string of financially successful Nationals 1980-1989 increased the national treasury by \$40,389.63.

1980-Vancouver	\$4,097.63	1985-Montreal	\$1,866.00
1981-Utica	5,237.30	1986-Columbus	3,443.85
1982-Toronto	2,307.06	1987-St.Paul	5,237.56
1983-Wilkes Barre	5,784.79	1988-Baltimoe	1,930.73
1984-Portland	4,672.22	1989-Pittsburgh	5,812.49

In spite of financial failures that started in 1990 at Victoria (with exact results never to be determined) and occurred again in 1997 at Milwaukee (depending on reading of a confusing report between \$4,500 and \$7,500), the 50% shares from successes generated \$117,362.81 for the national treasury.

1991-Cincinnati	\$3,694.36	1998-Columbus	\$19,345.28
1992-Kansas City	7,500.00	1999-Minneapolis	4,090.20
1993-Wilkes Barre	2,814.70	2000-Ottawa	9,481.97
1994-Bellevue	10,310.00	2001-San Jose	15,301.00
1995-Harrisburg	10,000.00	2002-Harrisburg	(7,300.00)*
1996-Utica	6,825.30	2003-Richmond, BC	28,000.00**

*The loss at Harrisburg, possibly reflecting the first impact on travel of 11 Sept 2001, is being partially offset through the headquarters controlled sale of Harrisburg 2002 CD's.

**Approximate-The final report was not completed in time for this history.

Detailed financial reports from venue committees are carried in the body of the History. However, three specific reports: Wilkes-Barre 1983, Columbus 1998 and San Jose 2001 are included here as examples of the growth of financial operations at a National. Selected income and disbursement entries indicated for comparison will not total.

WILKES-BARRE 1983

Income-\$92,362.73. Disbursements-\$80,793.16. Balance \$11,569.57.

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>DISBURSEMENT</u>
Registrations	\$16,405.00*	
Banquet	16,292.50**	\$14,419.30
Concert	9,342.00***	2,107.84
Tours	2,660.00	1,168.60
Sunday supper	7,351.50	6,264.88
Sale of hymnals	3,116.00	2,481.25
Church service	1,282.01	202.50
WAY luncheon	1,460.50	1,225.13
Memorials	4,408.00	
Donations	4,631.50	
Printing, advertising	8,399.60	
Postage, telephone		1,661.18
Stat, sup, svc photo		2,263.01
Bus rentals		3,610.40
Facility rentals		4,137.54
Insurance		1,228.00
Refunds to registrants		4,276.62
There were wash entries of \$17,231.30 for hotel reservations and repayment of advances.		
* 3,281 @ \$5.00	**931 @ \$17.50	***1,557 @ \$6.00

COLUMBUS 1998

Income-\$192,244.13 Expenses-\$153,553.58 Balance-\$38,690.55

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
Event Registrations	\$93,249.13	
CWLWM Concert-	(\$1,885.00)	
Eisteddfod	(\$1,840.00)	\$1,092.38
Family Supper	(\$31,492.13)	\$27,662.64
Grand Concert	(\$33,747.00)	\$28,851.35
Author Luncheon	(\$2,300.00)	\$3,388.04
MP Roundtable	(\$1,275.00)	\$957.21
Noson Lawen	(\$10,707.50)	\$2,682.42
Singles Mixer	(\$340.00)	\$372.00
Sunday Supper	(\$9,662.50)	\$10,190.78
Donations		\$40,196.50
Advertising	\$1,580.00	\$9,956.29
Booth Rental	\$2,730.50	
Memorials	\$4,640.00	
Seminars	\$19,124.00	\$3,075.80
Tours	\$11,201.00	\$8,973.32
Youth Activities	909.00	\$364.77
Other Expenses		
General expense		\$7,814.93
Audio-Visual		\$7,769.68
Entertainment		\$7,823.55
Facilities rental		\$9,554.01
General expenses		\$7,814.93
Postage		\$4,168.05
Printing		\$8,562.15
Receptions		\$3,480.09

There were 1,393 registrations @ \$15 for a total of \$20,895. The WNGGA share of registrations came to \$6,965. Attendees at this National occupied 1,803 room nights at the Hyatt Regency Headquarters in Columbus.

**SAN JOSE 2001
Final Report**

Activity	Income	Expense	Profit/Loss
Opening/Noson Lawen	\$ 7,140	\$ 6,426	\$ 714
Grand Banquet	30,140	29,348	792
Tea Room	1,734	1,988	-253
Session's meal	<u>6,760</u>	<u>5,848</u>	<u>912</u>
Subtotal Hotel Catering	38,634	37,184*	1,451
Eisteddfod	2,539	345	2,194
Market Place	3,980	2,482	1,498
Seminars	13,536	6,140	7,396
Grand Concert	53,635	28,651	24,984
Church service offering	1,572	901	670
Contributions / Memorials	7,940	7,940	
Honorarium			
YSGOL GERDD	1,500	-1,500	
<u>Gymanfa Ganu</u>	<u>3,993</u>	<u>7,196</u>	<u>-3,203</u>
Sub total events	87,195	47,215*	39,979
Donations N. Calif.	12,703		12,703
Marketing, ads, program, Postage, sup, registration, sale items.	11,344	23,443	-12,099
Misc-insurance, postage, supplies, graphics, travel, hospitality, credit cards, bank fees	<u>12,907</u>	<u>24,748</u>	<u>-11,841</u>
Grand Total	\$169,922*	\$139,016	\$30,907*

* Rounding

Registration Fees

Discussion of the \$1 registration fee at the 1962 meeting in Utica indicated concern that a registration fee was restricting attendance and was contrary to the non-profit status of the Association. The registration fee was increased to \$5 for the 1987 National in St. Paul and a board meeting there approved a motion to standardize the \$5 fee. At the 1991 mid-year meeting, a suggestion was made that registration for members be \$5 and \$10 for non-members. The registration fee at Bellevue in 1994 was \$10. A request from the San Jose venue committee that the registration fee be increased from \$15 to \$25 was denied because of the lack of supporting data. It was increased to \$20 effective 1 Aug 2001 with application only to pre-registrations before a specified date.

The registration fee at Harrisburg 2002 was \$25 if paid on or before 1 August 2002 and \$30 if paid after 1 August. The registration form listed prices for selected events as \$45 for the Grand Banquet, \$25 for the Grand Concert and \$8 for seminars. Non-registered persons were charged \$10 for Gymanfa sessions.

The registration fee for Richmond, BC 2002 was continued at \$25 (\$42.50 CAD) if paid on or before 1 August 2003 and \$30 (\$51 CAD) if paid after 1 August 2003. Prices for the selected events at Richmond were Grand Banquet adults \$42 (\$60 CAD), Grand Concert \$28 (\$40 CAD), seminars \$10.50 (\$15 CAD), Gymanfa sessions \$5 (\$7 CAD) each for non-registered persons, and the inter-session buffet adults \$14 (\$20 CAD). There were lower prices for children 4-12 for some events.

Registrations and Proceeds Share to WNGGA Treasury

	<u>Registrations</u>	<u>Share</u>
Columbus 1986	1,993	\$ 3,908.47
St., Paul 1987	1,500	5,197.76
Baltimore 1988	1,784	1,930.73
Pittsburgh 1989	1,320	5,757.06
Cincinnati 1991	983	3,854.34
Kansas City 1992	869	7,500.00
Wilkes-Barre 1993	2,050	2,814.95
Bellevue 1994	1,264	10,000.00
Harrisburg 1995	1,837	9,818.00
Utica 1996	1,065	6,815.80
Columbus 1998	1,393	19,345.28
Minneapolis 1999	4,090.20	
Ottawa 2000	936	4,481.97
San Jose 2001	15,301.00	
Richmond, BC 2003	28,000.00	

Sponsorships-Columbus 1998

The importance of sponsorships cannot be over emphasized. The venue committee for Columbus 1998, chaired by **Mary Ellen Morgan** and **Marietta Riggs Schumann**, was the first to make a concentrated effort to secure sponsorships to underwrite talent. They were remarkably successful and the WNGGA benefited greatly from the following individuals and organizations that sponsored activities during that National

Will and John Draime, 8 and 7 years old respectively, children of Stephen and Gwyneth A. Francis Draime, made what is believed to be the largest single donation ever given to a National Gymanfa Ganu. Their gift underwrote the entire cost of bringing the Rhos Male Voice Choir to Columbus. Their gift was made in the name of **William Francis**, late husband of **Eula Francis**, Past National President of the Women's Welsh Clubs of America; **Tom Schroth**, a little Welshman who died before he could fill his commitment to bring the Rhos Male Voice Choir to Columbus this year; **Steven Draime**, their father, who died in June of 1996; and the late **Betty Llewellyn** who was recalled as the definition of the word "Lady".

Olwen Joyce Anderson underwrote all expenses for tenor **Geraint Dodd** and his wife to include travel, airfare, a Hyatt Regency suite and all his fees.

Anne Powell Riley donated \$1,400 to underwrite the fees of **Dafydd and Menna Edwards** for their performances at the Welsh Family Supper and one of the Gymanfa Sessions. The Edwards paid their own airfare and were allocated comp rooms.

David C. Jones, the first large donor, who arranged to underwrite the fees for the Ohio State University Men's Glee Club for its performance at the Noson Lawen.

Niles Gymanfa Ganu Association completely underwrote the fees for the performance of the Greater Canton Male Voice Choir at the Welsh Family Supper.

The British Counsel partially sponsored the appearance of CWLWM, the lovely five Welshwomen's singing group.

Robert Penry sponsored bell ringer **Stephen Smith** and his accompanist for their performance during the Grand Concert.

Other sponsors supported the appearances of **Geraint Wilkes** and **Gwawr Edwards**.

The following artists donated their talents:

Amy Garver-soprano	Nelson Llewellyn-baritone
Gettysburg College Singers	Joan Owen Mandry-Recitations
James Lambert Singers-Wales	Lloyd Savage-Accordionist/Singer
Colleen Kennedy-Co-Winner	
1997 Eisteddfod in Milwaukee.	

Sponsorships-Richmond, BC 2003

The success of the WNGGA committee for Richmond 2003, chaired by **Alan Upshall** and **Lynn Owens Whalen**, proved that significant sponsorship of the Nationals is not just a dream or just a Columbus phenomenon. The WNGGA deeply appreciates the support provided by the following sponsors whose contributed greatly to the success of the 2003 North American Festival of Wales.

Gren Thomas, Strongbow Resources Inc. and Navigator Resources Inc.-Appearance of the Duvant Male Choir

Wales Tourist Board-Appearance of International Operatic Baritone Jason Howard.

David G. Morris, Florida-Eisteddfod Semi-professional Solo Competition

Colonel Alf and Mrs. Faye Reese, Pennsylvania-Appearance of Gymanfa Conductor Haydn James.

University of Wales Institute, Cardiff-Appearance of Seminar Speaker Terry Breverton.

The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth-appearance of Eirionedd Baskerville, Genealogy

Welsh Books Council-General Support

Bill Palmer, White Rock-Publicity

The Vancouver Welsh Society-Multicultural Tour Luncheon.

The Victoria Welsh Society-Appearance of Gaynor Samuel, Welsh Lessons.

The Puget Sound Welsh Association-Appearance of Bronn & Katherine Journey and Paul Kawabori.

The Welsh Association of the Pacific Northwest-Appearance of John Baker, Welsh Journeys Seminars.

The Welsh North American Chamber of Commerce-Welsh Business Seminar.

John Laxton-General Support

The Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir-General Support and Ticket Sales.

Tourism Vancouver

Tourism Richmond

MEDIA SPONSORS

CBC Radio Canada-

Ninnau

The Celtic Connection

Y Drych

Yr Enfys-Cymru a'r Byd (Wales International)

[Sponsorships are available almost for the asking if an aggressive and informational approach is directed toward **potential** sponsors with a Welsh interest or connection. A personal, face to face approach is best. The WNGGA would do well to seek out contacts that can open the door to potential sponsoring individuals and corporations.]

APPENDIX M

THE LAWSUIT

Any person of Welsh lineage, or any person or organization in full sympathy with the stated purpose of THE ASSOCIATION shall be eligible to membership.

Membership in the WNGGA has been thusly defined since the WNGGA Constitution approved in 1958. Ethnic purity is not and has never been a measure of membership eligibility. It is in this light that the lawsuit filed against the WNGGA on 26 December 2001 should be considered

An irony of all this is that a disagreement between Geraint Wilkes of Milwaukee and Michael J. Lewis of Los Angeles, both natives of Aberystwyth, Wales may have been the genesis of all the nagging and expensive legal problems of the WNGGA. The Saturday October 16, 1999 issue of THE PRESS ENTERPRISE (Riverside, California) contained a paragraph that said “Wilkes has a separate lawsuit pending against [Michael] Lewis in Los Angeles County Superior Court alleging Lewis breached an agreement to premiere a new song at a Welsh festival in Milwaukee in 1997, Lloyd said. Lloyd does not represent Wilkes in that case.” An article in Britain’s Western Mail of Friday 28 April 2000 said, “One [suit] alleges that Mr. Lewis breached a contract with the 1997 Milwaukee Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.” The other irony about all this is that the plaintiffs are all life members of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

Whatever the cause, this whole discouraging episode exposed the Welsh community of North America generally and the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association specifically to disruptive influences and, conceivably, ridicule that adversely affected the already sensitive and fragile existence of this non profit organization. The WNGGA, being an organization completely dependent on membership dues and participation and the good will and interest of non-Welsh friends can little afford anything that hints at a divisive image. In an organization that always operates with limited liquid resources, known to all, anything or anyone causing unnecessary expenditures can only be considered unconscionable.

The best and safest way to describe this sad affair is to quote liberally from the action filed, on 11/4/03

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOURTH APPELLATE DISTRICT

DIVISION TWO

in the case of GERAIN T WILKES et al., Plaintiffs and Appellants v. WELSH NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU ASSOCIATION, Defendant and Respondent.

“Plaintiffs and appellants Geraint Wilkes, Trefor Williams, and Rees Lloyd, ‘Welshmen all,’ appeal after the trial court sustained the demurrer of defendant and respondent, Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association (the Association) to a second amended complaint for alleged unfair business practices and false ‘advertising,’ for the Association’s having had the audacity to list the Côr Cymraeg de Califfornia (the Welsh Choir of Southern California, referred hereafter as the ‘Choir’) as a ‘Welsh’ organization, when, allegedly, ‘in fact,’ the members of the Choir were not Welsh, or at least not sufficiently Welsh to satisfy the plaintiffs.”

FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

“The background of this litigation is entertaining, if not exactly edifying. Michael J. Lewis is the director of the Choir. Geraint Wilkes and Rees Lloyd, two of the three plaintiffs here, previously sued Lewis and the Choir apparently . . . committed false advertising in naming itself a ‘Welsh’ choir, ‘when in fact it is composed of persons of non-Welsh ethnicity and heritage.’ In that earlier action . . . the trial court granted summary judgment in favor of Lewis and the Choir, holding ‘[t]hat the actions of defendants . . . is not deceptive advertising . . . A reasonable consumer is not likely to be deceived that the reference to Welsh Choir of Southern California requires that each member be of Welsh descent, or some other tenuous Welsh relationship. The Welsh Choir sings Welsh music and they neither advertise nor hold themselves out to the public as exclusively Welsh nationals. . . .”

“. . . Wilkes and Lloyd appealed the judgment . . . the appeal . . . was dismissed pursuant to a stipulated settlement . . . that in all future advertising, the Choir shall include the words ‘A Multi-ethnic Choir’ in readable type in a size appropriate to the application.’ . . . the Choir was allowed to advertise itself, not as ‘The Largest Welsh Choir Outside of Wales,’ but as ‘One of the Largest Welsh Choirs Outside of Wales.’ ”

“A scant month . . . plaintiffs perceived that Lewis and the Choir had reneged . . . filed a new action . . . suing . . . that Lewis and the Choir had a compact disc (CD) recording . . . without, however adding the words, ‘A Multi-ethnic Choir.’ . . . On December 26, 2001, plaintiffs elected to file a first amended complaint . . . added the Association as a named defendant”

“That is, plaintiffs were piqued that the Association allowed Lewis and the Choir to sell the offending CD, without the ‘Multi-ethnic Choir’ designation, at the Association’s 2001 festival.”

“Plaintiffs further complained that the Choir was included in a listing of ‘North American Welsh Groups,’ published by the Association, and identified simply as ‘Côr Cymraeg de Califfornia, Michael J. Lewis, director,’ . . . without . . . the words ‘A Multi-ethnic Choir . . .’ ”

“The Association demurred on the grounds that it was not a party to, or in privity with a party to, the settlement agreement. . . the Association’s demurrer to the first amended complaint was sustained, with leave to amend. . . Plaintiffs filed a ‘second amended complaint’ naming only the Association . . . for unfair competition . . . and for false advertising. . . . The Association demurred to the second amended complaint . . . the demurrer is sustained without leave to amend.”

“The court entered judgment for the Association, accordingly the Plaintiffs now appeal.”

ANALYSIS

. . . . “The Association successfully demurred to the first amended complaint, because it was not party to the earlier action, and was neither a party to nor bound by the settlement agreement.”

“Although plaintiffs have attempted to re-cast the causes of action, alleging that the Association has now itself engaged in unfair business practices and false advertising . . . We cannot fault the trial court for seeing through the form to the substance of the complaint. No matter how cleverly cast, the allegations amount to neither more nor less than an attempt to hold the Association liable for failing to enforce the settlement agreement, to which it was not a party, and by which it was not bound. . . .”

“The second amended complaint fails to state a cause of action for unfair competition . . .

“Plaintiffs’ complaint hinges entirely on the premise that to describe any group or organization as ‘Welsh,’ it must consist exclusively of persons of Welsh nationality, descent or extraction. How the issue of Welsh ‘nationality’ is to be determined, plaintiffs leave wholly undefined. Is a person of 1/32 Welsh blood still ‘Welsh’? One sixty-fourth? When is the bloodline so attenuated that a person is no longer considered ‘Welsh’? Is a person adopted into a Welsh family nonetheless ‘Welsh’? . . . assumption underlying both the present lawsuit and the previous one is that

only genuinely ‘Welsh’ persons—whatever that may mean—can comprise any organization that calls itself ‘Welsh.’ (Indeed, we are constrained to note that plaintiffs claim Welsh heritage, ancestry or nationality for the author and ‘half the signers of the Declaration of Independence . . . It might thus prove difficult to say who among us does not have Welsh ancestry, or by what standards this is to be determined.’ . . .

“Thus, the descriptive term ‘Welsh’ does not refer exclusively to the national origin of persons; it may also be used to describe many other things typical or characteristic of Wales, such as Welsh clogging (dancing), Welsh music, or Welsh culture. A person seeking to know more about Wales, its history, its traditions, and its culture might do worse than look at a list of self-styled ‘Welsh Organizations’ in North America; if a choir that sings Welsh music is listed, even if its members are not Welsh nationals, who can possibly have been harmed?”

“. . . Plaintiffs here, however, as the Association puts it, ‘do not sue because of any business reason, or commercial practice. [Rather,] [t]hey are suing to vindicate their idiosyncratic quest to require ethnic purity of any group which holds itself out as *Welsh*.’” . . .

“We have already stated, however, that ‘Welsh’ as a descriptive term does not refer necessarily and exclusively to the nationality or ethnicity of individual persons. Because the term ‘Welsh,’ as an adjective, legitimately describes things which are characteristic or identified with Wales, there is no such ‘fact’ that organizations promoting Welsh culture or tradition cannot be described as ‘Welsh.’

“. . . In the earlier appeal, Lewis and the Choir agreed to use the words, ‘A Multi-ethnic Choir’ in their future advertising, but there may be any number of reasons why they agreed to do so. Perhaps they were anxious to end the expense and frustration of harassing litigation. They expressly admitted no liability whatsoever. It should be noted that . . . the settlement agreement did not prohibit the Choir from calling itself the ‘Welsh Choir of Southern California.’ The agreement also did not prohibit the Choir from using that name in advertising, so long as the additional agreed-upon language was included. The agreement further expressly permitted the Choir to advertise itself as ‘One of the Largest Welsh Choirs Outside of Wales.’ In other words, nothing in the agreement establishes as a ‘fact’ that ‘Welsh Choir’ must refer exclusively to the ethnic origin of the singers. Neither has there ever been any factual adjudication that ‘Welsh’ can mean only ‘Welsh persons.’ . . .

“Plaintiffs’ argument to the court below highlights the ridiculousness of this suit: . . . Notably, plaintiffs have never claimed that the Association ‘falsely’ advertises itself as a ‘Welsh’ organization or alleged that it ‘falsely’ calls itself the

‘*Welsh* National Gymanfa Ganu Association’ despite admitting non-Welsh persons to membership. In other words, the real target is the Choir, and plaintiffs seek through this litigation to enforce the settlement agreement.” . . .

“Plaintiffs’ claims against the Association are patently devoid of merit. The court did not abuse its discretion in denying leave to amend.”

DISPOSITON

“Plaintiffs, the self-appointed arbiters of Welshness, take umbrage at anyone else who wants to call himself or herself Welsh, though they certainly appear eager to claim Welshness for numerous famous or mythical people. Instead of celebrating the generation of interest in and preservation of Welsh culture and music in this country, even by those who may not be Welsh, they promulgate a shriveled and niggardly interpretation of the adjective ‘Welsh’ as solely referring to ethnic purity, although by what standard we are left to guess. They have clogged the courts with at least two lawsuits and two appeals in a fruitless effort to enforce their views on the world. They al-

lege commercial harms when none can possibly have been done. It is time for these plaintiffs to stop harrying the rest of the world with their ceaseless frivolous actions. Let enough be enough.

The judgment is affirmed

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS

/s/ Ward

J.

We concur;

/s/ Ramirez

P.J.

/s/ Hollenhorst

J.

Now, hopefully, this sad and expensive (in the neighborhood of \$25,000) episode for the WNGGA is over. Unfortunately, it also affected individual staunch supporters of the WNGGA who were caught up in this unnecessary action. It is truly sad that the time and hard dollars expended could have been used, more appropriately, in carrying out the primary Purpose of the Association. It is equally sad to think of the damage that may have been done to the reputation of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, an outstanding representative of all the things held dear to most Welsh.

APPENDIX N

CHRONOLOGY

This chronological listing is an abbreviated version of the evolutionary growth of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

1929- Niagara Falls, NY. The first National Gymanfa Ganu on Goat Island and the formation of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association,

1931-Niagara Falls, NY. First singing of *God Be With You* at closing.

1933-Chicago. First two day event with afternoon and evening sessions. First appearance of a choir, the Cleveland Cambrian Welsh Male Choir. First concert, Massed Voice Choir composed of 339 voices.

1935-Youngstown. First Constitution adopted, authorized voting delegates from member organizations and non-voting individual members.

1938-Pittsburgh. Authorization granted for a Western Division National that never came about.

1941-New Castle, PA. Hymn tune contest. First broadcast of sessions.

1943-1945-Suspension for duration of World War II.

1946-Akron. Victory National reactivated National Gymanfa Ganu.

1949-Salt Lake City. First three day National. First scheduled tours. Half-hour broadcast over CBS. Sessions in Tabernacle

1950-Canton,OH. First NGGA hymnal.

1951-The National Gymanfa Ganu Association incorporated in Ohio.

1952-Seattle. First Regional Gymanfa Ganu.

1955-Salt Lake City. First four day National.

1957-Washington, DC. Welsh Hymns for English Singers, \$.50

1958-Milwaukee. Vote granted to individual members. Name changed to National Gymanfa Ganu Association of the United States and Canada. Board of Trustees established.

1959-Toronto. First National in Canada. The WNGGA Endowment Fund was established although it was not included in the Constitution until 1971.

1960-San Francisco. Standardization of National with Thursday Noson Lawen, Friday Dinner, Saturday Concert and Sunday Church Service and Gymanfa Ganu Sessions.

1961-The United States Internal Revenue Service granted non-profit 501 (c) (3) status to the Association making all U.S. contributions tax deductible. Beginning of Awy Y Plant at Nationals.

1964-Philadelphia. **Mrs. Trevor (Angharad) Lloyd Roberts** of Vancouver, BC became the first woman President of the Association.

1968-Buffalo. First financial loss at a National. Caused by Buffalo filling need when no other venue bid received. Loss absorbed by Buffalo St. David's Society.

1969-Cardiff. First NGGA Gymanfa Ganu in Wales.

1970-Milwaukee. Welsh American Youth (WAY) established.

1971-Salt Lake City. Name changed to the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association.

1973-1979. Difficult years.

1974-Swansea. Second NGGA (WNGGA) Gymanfa Ganu in Wales.

1975-New York City. The Morriston Male Voice Choir, first choir from Wales to perform at a National Gymanfa Ganu

1978-Minneapolis. New Constitution.

1979-Niagara Falls, NY. Golden Jubilee National and installation of plaque on Goat Island.

1983-Wilkes-Barre. First Welsh Market Place.

1984-First National co-chaired by women: **Emmaline Davies and Betty Pierce**.

1984-Beginning of WNGGA scholarship program.

1988-Baltimore. Appearance of Bryn Terfel. Passing of flags during closing ceremony.

1990-Victoria, BC. Executive Director authorized. **Nelson L. Llewellyn** first Executive Director.

1992-Kansas City, MO. First mixed voice choir from Wales, Ardwyn Singers (Cantorion Ardwyn).

1994-Bellevue, WA. First woman preacher, **Rev. Enid Morgan** from Wales. First Esiteddfod.

1995-Harrisburg. Reformatted hymnal to place words with music.

1998-Columbus. Extensive sponsorship of choirs and soloists. Adoption of New Concept of relations between WNGGA BOT and venue committees. WNGGA WEB site.

1999-Move of International Headquarters to campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. Minneapolis-Amendments to Constitution removed reference to regionals, increased trustees for US West to six, and added details on co-sponsoring. First appearance of Cŵr Cymry Gogledd America (North American Welsh Choir).

2000-Ottawa-Major bequests received from estates of **Dr. Carlton Jones Lake** and **Dr. Phillips G. Davies**

2001-San Jose. Festival of Wales. Welsh Hymns for Non-Welsh Singers. WNGGA treasurer became responsible for the Endowment Fund.

2002-Harrisburg. Youth Initiative Committee established to replace Welsh American Youth (WAY).

2003-First Annual North American Festival of Wales.

2004-75th Anniversary of National Gymanfa Ganu to be held in Buffalo, NY with a ceremony on Goat Island, Niagara Falls, NY

