

1/10/87

1987 NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 6, 1987

Present: Mae Anderson, Kay Thomas, David Thomas, Eleanor Wylie, Walter Carlock, Jack Davis, Judy Cilcain, Marveen Minish, Mary Mergenthal

The minutes of the December 9 meeting were approved as mailed.

It was announced for the benefit of those who had not yet heard that the price for the Marketplace area has been lowered to \$750 for the entire weekend. The cost of booth set-up is \$35 per booth.

Treasurer's report: Balance in checkbook: \$635.64, with a check from 3M for \$6,000 to be deposited.

Kay Thomas reported on the events in her area of responsibility. The Ordway has not returned her calls. As far as the concert artists are concerned, Ar Log 's dates for its South American tour were extended and cover the period we desired them to be here. Plethan will not be coming (it is not reported whether or not they were contacted by the Welsh Tourist Board). It was reported by Kay's contact at the Board that the brother of someone on the Welsh Tourist Board is in a well-known folk group, and they would be attending. Unfortunately, the woman could not at that moment remember the name of the group. This causes some uneasiness among the committee; it is believed and hoped that the Tourist Board would feel its reputation as well as ours is resting on this group and therefore would send a top talent.

The Lord Mayor of Swansea is not coming; the man who portrays Dylan Thomas is coming. As a replacement for the Mayor, someone from the town where 3M's plant is located will probably be coming, which would be very fine from the publicity and presentation aspect. A letter to fill out these sketchy telephone details is on the way.

Kay requested that the February meeting be planned around discussion of the Noson Lawen. She has several people already lined up to perform for it.

Gwen Lloyd and Roberta Minish will work on the WAY activities. Gwen has been asked to write an article for the WAY newsletter.

Kay has not heard from the scholarship winner who we requested to do a seminar if he were to attend the Gymanfa.

Jack Davis reported that he had talked to Howard Williams about the seminars. Howard as yet had not worked on this, but said he would shortly.

It was mentioned that in 1978 a proclamation from the Governor was done declaring August Welsh Awareness Month (or something to that effect). All that is necessary for this type of thing is to write your proclamation and send it to the Governor's office. A time of signing is set and the group's designated people meet with the Governor, who signs the proclamation. It was felt that this could be another good piece of publicity, and could be used in the smaller newspapers, such as the Sailor (Perhaps Mankato, etc.). David Thomas will send the text of the 1978 proclamation

1/11/87 - MAE CALLED - NEEDS 150 LETTERS - BENT 1/21/87 \$53.00 HOTEL INFO THE ST PAUL HOTEL 53.00 HOLIDAY INN 60.00



to Walter Carlock, who will, as Publicity Chairman, see that it is correctly worded so as to reflect the 1987 Gymanfa in St. Paul, and will make contact with the Governor's office and with the smaller local (and outstate) papers.

It was also suggested that contact be made with the Prince of Wales extending an invitation to attend the Gymanfa, assuming that a reply of "greetings" will be returned which we can put in the program.

The January article in Ninnau on the Gymanfa was discussed. Great concern was shown about the paragraph which reads "Appropriate arrangements with hotel management makes Mae Anderson happy to announce that the irritations, frustrations and inconveniences experienced by many in the hotel at Columbus, will not occur in Saint Paul." Since we have no control over the wording of information sent to Ninnau, our articles are at the mercy of John O. Morgans, Contributing Editor. It was felt by the committee that this paragraph seems to be an implied criticism of the Columbus committee and a totally inappropriate "crowing" that our Gymanfa will be far superior. Mae stated that she had not given him any such information or impression. It was felt that the best way to deal with this situation so as to assure the Columbus people that no offense was intended, to register our disapproval to Ninnau, and yet not to irritate Mr. Morgans so much that he proves even more intractable in the future was to put our protest in the form of a letter to the editor, perhaps in the form of an apology to the Columbus committee for any misimplication. Mary Mergenthal will assist Mae Anderson in composing the appropriate letter, which will be sent to Ninnau, and a copy and explanatory note to the Columbus committee chairman.

Eleanor Wylie reported on her investigation of insurance for the Gymanfa. Her agent felt that the Ordway and the Civic Center would undoubtedly require that we have it; the Ordway, in fact, has its own policy which we would be obligated to buy. The agent suggested \$1million in coverage for a cost of about \$1,000. He will obtain further information.

Mae Anderson had an article about the Abu Bekr Shrine Chanters from Sioux City, Iowa, who had been invited to participate in the Tenth Festival of 1,000 Male Voices at the Royal Albert Hall in London in October. The Chanters had learned Welsh in order to do this. It was suggested that this group be invited to attend the Gymanfa and to present entertainment at the banquet. Kay Thomas will call the person in charge of the Chanters.

Mae Anderson listed items which must be decided so that the deadline of January 15 can be met for the first mailing:

- Set all prices of all events
- Places and artists must be nailed down
- Gymanfa session place must be nailed down
- Tours must be settled
- Seminar subjects must be selected
- Registration times must be decided upon

In the latter category, it was Mae's feeling that the

registration desks should be closed when events are on.

It was decided that registration times should be:

Thursday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday, 12 noon to 2:30 p.m.

Sunday will need two registration crews because there will be need for one registration desk at the place where the Gymanfa is being held. Persons coming only to the Gymanfa sessions will pay the registration fee of \$5.

Regarding the banquet: It was discovered that the price quoted to us for this meal was for a 12-ounce pork chop that has not even been put on the menu as yet. Their alternate pork chop is \$4 less. It was felt that this was quite adequate, and would reduce our cost for the banquet. It was also felt that the cost of our events must be covered by the fees which are charged for them.

Discussion of prices for the various events was as follows:

Noson Lawen - \$4

Tours - \$11.50 to \$13.50

Tour 1; Jonathon Paddleford - we must guarantee 125 persons and rent the entire boat. This was not felt to be a problem

Tour 2; Cities tour with stop at Minnehaha Falls

Tour 3; Friday only - Ramsey House and the Cathedral, with drive along mansions on Summit Avenue

It was decided to offer the tours as many times as the tour companies would do so. If we do not fill the times adequately, we can then make the decision to combine some times.

Banquet - under/about \$20

WAY Lunch - \$11 for 30 and under; \$13 for over 30

Concert - undecided

Sunday-only registration - \$5

Seminars - \$2 each seminar

The committee authorized Mae Anderson, Eleanor Wylie, Kay Thomas and Mary Mergenthal to make the final decisions on the concert cost and the other proposed costs after reviewing costs of the entire Gymanfa events. Eleanor Wylie will study these items to report to this group.

Ninnau advertising was reported to be \$80 for a 1/4 page for the first running; \$72 for 2-5 times and \$65 for 6 times and over. It was decided to use the 1/4 page and to run the number of times which would obtain us the lowest rate for the most ads.

David Thomas suggested advertising also in the program for the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 3 at 7:30 at the home of Kay Thomas, 318 E. Diamond Lake Rd., Mpls.