



WNGGA Harrisburg '95 Minutes for 06-11-94

The June meeting was held at the Harrisburg Hotel in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, at 10:00 AM. Our host was Carolee Taylor of the Harrisburg Hotel Staff. The purpose of the meeting was to visit the on-site facilities of the Harrisburg Hotel and later meet with a Hilton Staff member to answer any other logistical questions committee heads may have.

The Harrisburg Hotel

The Harrisburg Hotel was built in the 1960's as a Holiday Inn. Because of economic circumstances, Aetna and the City of Harrisburg bought the building to save it from financial closure. Doubletree/Guest Quarters has a 5 year management contract with the City of Harrisburg to renovate and run the building as a hotel again.

The Harrisburg has 261 sleeping rooms available. The sleeping rooms are comprised of 101 double/double, 125 queen, and the remainder divided between king, parlor suites, singles and single/double. Sleeping rooms are on the 3rd to the 10th floors with 25 rooms on each floor. It is planned that 50% of the rooms will be non-smoking. There will be 6 handicap quarters available.

Carolee then took us on a tour of the hotel. She noted that the *Transportation Terminal* for trains and buses is only 3 blocks away and is visible from the hotel. The Harrisburg Hotel does have its own parking garage under the building for guests and is free. There is additional parking on Market Street. The regular all day fee is \$12.00, but registered hotel guests are only charged \$3.00 per day.

Surrounded by sun decks on three sides, the *Governor's Room* is Carolee's suggestion for a light buffet reception or cocktail party. The room accommodates 100 and affords a view of the city on three sides. Light buffet is suggested because the service elevator does not go up to the 10th floor.

The *Mezzanine floor* features the banquet room, telephone, house phone, rest rooms, exercise room and pool area. The banquet room can be divided into four sections with 144 seats in each section. A group of 500 can be accommodated at round tables of 8 and 10 guests. A portable dance floor is available. Sian Frick suggested that we hold the Twmpath at the Harrisburg Hotel at the same time as the Banquet at the Hilton. The younger people will have a choice of events to attend, and after the Banquet, others can come over to join in the folk dancing.

The *Pennsylvania Room* divides into 4 rooms holding 35 to 50 people per room. The *Dauphin Room* is a social area with a wet bar. It also connects with the Pennsylvania Room and is located next to the pool area. Sliding glass doors can be opened for access to the pool. Cheryl Mitchell suggested that we hold the WAY pool party here. Carolee will look into this for us.

We asked Carolee if a *buffet supper* could be arranged on Sunday between Cymanfa sessions. She doesn't see it as a problem because the Sunday Luncheon Buffet will be over by that time. She did suggest that we get together with the Hilton to come up with a similar menu for this buffet.

Dick Baskwill asked about *audio-visual equipment* that might be needed by seminar leaders. As the Hilton, the Harrisburg Hotel has their own equipment and any additional equipment needed can be obtained from J. P. Lilley in Harrisburg. Many hotels use this source. Our tour concluded and we returned to our meeting room.

WNGGA Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the WNGGA Harrisburg '95 was opened with prayer by Rev. Richard Price Baskwill. Additions and corrections to the previous meeting's minutes were noted and approved. Our group met with Todd Kohr of the Tourism and Convention Bureau of Harrisburg/Hershey/Carlisle.

Glenn Grove exhibited the *advertisement for the Bellevue Program Booklet*. The Committee approved the work. He then read *Glynne Jones' letter of acceptance*. Glynne has accepted the invitation to be director of the Cymanfaeodd, direct a full 2 hour concert with the Pendyrus Male Choir at the Grand Concert and lead one seminar. The title of the program on Saturday night is "Welsh Music: Yesterday and Today". Pendyrus will sponsor their own bass soloist and will feature him during this concert. The concert will also include organ pieces and a 15 minute intermission. We will contact Louise Taliesin and David Gwesyn Smith and advise them of this situation. We will offer them solo spots at both Cymanfa sessions along with the Pendyrus Male Choir. Glynne was delighted that we suggested *Donald King as accompanist* during Cymanfa sessions. A letter of invitation will go out to the Lord Mayor of Cardiff.

While we were on the subject of the Pendyrus, Pat St. Clair suggested that we opt to provide *bus transportation to and from Delta for the choir*. It would be less expensive to hire a bus than to give complementary tickets to each host family for the Grand Concert. We can also hire buses for the families that wish to go along at their own expense. This would solve the parking problem in Harrisburg. As a matter of courtesy, we will also see that the choir has a lounge area in which to relax and change between Cymanfa sessions. The Committee voted by common consent to provide a bus for the Pendyrus on Saturday and Sunday to transport them to and from Harrisburg with Delta as the departure point. Hosts will be allowed to transport their choir members if desired, but they are responsible for call schedule and parking

Other news about the Pendyrus Choir:

The Australian tour has fallen through which allows more members to travel to Harrisburg for the '95 National. *Glynne is entertaining the prospect of an East Coast American Tour for Pendyrus.* The following venues have expressed an interest in a return engagement: Baltimore (Mary Our Queen Cathedral), Delaware (University of Delaware), Bangor PA (Slate Belt Welsh Society), Washington DC (National Cathedral), York PA (Trinity), Harrisburg PA (Hershey Park Arena?), Boston. Pat will take the names of these venues with her when she and Bill go to Wales on June 27 to encourage the Pendyrus on an East Coast Tour.

Bellevue News:

Glenn passed around the minutes from the latest meeting of the Bellevue National. Our ad was sent to them on Friday. We need to compose and send *a letter acknowledging their kindness in donating a publicity table in the Welsh Market Place to promote the Harrisburg National.* We also need to request a VCR with monitor and electrical outlet. The Bellevue Committee is sponsoring a reception party for their visiting dignitaries and Welsh Male Choir on Sunday evening. We should consider doing the same for our guests. By vote of common consent, the Executive Committee of Harrisburg '95 has agreed to sponsor a reception on Sunday evening following the evening Cymanfa session for visiting dignitaries and officials, the Pendyrus Male Choir, seminar leaders, performers, committee members, and the WNGGA Executive Committee. Pat and Glenn offered to plan this activity. To control costs, it will be by invitation only and a small charge may be applied to non-guests.

Mike Granados advised us that he sent the advert for the Hymn Competition to Bellevue and is asking the Committee to absorb the advert fee. The Committee voted by common consent to pay for the ad.

Todd said that at least one person from the *Convention and Tourism Board* will come out to Bellevue with us. They will bring a promotional video to use, literature on Harrisburg and accommodations, Amish culture, outlet shopping and the various tours available. He will also have advertisements from the Lancaster Merchants. Glenn suggested that we distribute hard pretzels and Hershey kisses and hugs. Todd advised us that Hershey chocolate cannot be shipped by plane during the summer months due to melting. He will look into a Hershey distributor in the Washington area.

Todd would like to arrange an *organizational meeting with the Mayor of Harrisburg* and our Committee in early fall. He expects a lot of cooperation from the Mayor's office to help make our National a success. It was suggested that we have one evening meeting or a weekend set up for separate meetings. Todd has some businesses that he would like to invite.

Pat has given the Bellevue registration form to Todd so he can budget money for this trip. He is also working on a *list of local business names and corporations for financial underwriting, support and advertisement.* We should also look for support of ethnic societies in Harrisburg. Perhaps a local high school or choral society could participate in an event and sing some Welsh songs. Todd plans to have posters to display in all supporting business windows. These business might be more willing to buy ads in the program booklet or offer discounts to Cymanfa customers.

Todd also suggested that we have *Hospitality people at the airport* to meet disembarking guests with Croeso banners and Welsh flags. He also requested that we compile a *list of sponsorship opportunities* for the weekend. This list would comprise of tickets, program booklet, banners, Welsh newspapers, forms of advertisement in walkway of Strawberry Square. Todd can then take our list to the Mayor's meeting and solicit specific help from specific individuals/businesses.

Committee Reports:

The Executive Committee requested that the Committee accept *Margaret Supik in the position of administrative assistant.* This position has been created to help alleviate the work load for Cheryl Mitchell. Margaret has offered to do any clerical work that our group may need. Glenn will approach Margaret about this by next meeting.

Marge Markley found a patron to print our *stationary*. This is being done free of charge and no complementary ad is needed. The paper is cream with blue logo on it.

Marge Markley and Margaret Supik are looking into *T shirt prices* from Skylight and Sian Frick tried obtaining prices from Iron Shirt. Iron Shirt is backed up with orders at present and would not be able to accommodate us at present. Donnie Myers is another name of a local T shirt printer in Delta that may be able to help us.

Glenn discussed his idea of a *Harrisburg '95 banner* that would carry the same Gymanfa Ganu logo in color on a white banner background. The banner could be used as a focal point at different functions, meetings, Cymanfaoedd, etc.

The *Souvenir Booklet committee* will be meeting in July with Wesley Gilberto. It is believed that this project will be under \$2,000 and will turn a profit for us.

Art Sherman and Nancy Hannah will be working this month on a *projected budget*. Danielle Wells brought up the question of using credit cards for all phases of payment. Checks are acceptable, but we need to know how other Nationals handled "non-sufficient funds" checks and returns. Art and Nancy will investigate the financial advantage of this suggestion and find out if there is a fee involved.

Dick Baskwill noted that on the Bellevue minutes *seminars have maximum cut-off numbers for participants*. He will approach each seminar leader and request the number of participants they can handle at each class. Currently, our minimum class number is 25. After our tour of the Harrisburg Hotel, we now know that there are 9 rooms available for seminars. At the next meeting, Dick will present a report with recommendations on seminar topics and leaders.

Priscilla Sherman advised us that there is very little money available to help with coordinating our activities with the *Kapona River Festival*. The most that we could hope for is \$300 to \$400 and concerts (Saturday and Sunday only) in the pavilion only pay \$150. The Barge Concerts are only held on Friday nights. We had hoped that the schedules between our events could blend, but they are not working out.

Ron Roberts, Mike Granados and Barry Wells are working on a *program for registration that would be able to update information and attendance lists for all events*. The Committee voted by common consent to use photocopies if necessary to cut down on printing costs. Due to the availability of copiers, we do not feel the need to purchase our own copier at this time.

Theresa Perdue reported that she will be *meeting with Michele Griffiths* to discuss their event. Red, green and white table cloths are now available with the Hilton.

Sian Frick read the letter that she received from *Calennig* that offered their services in seminars, dance and spoon workshops. Only two of the three performers can come, but Sian says that this will make no difference in their performance. *They agree to come for the cost of their travel and lodgings.* We hope to put them on the same flight as the Pendyrus Choir. By common consent, the Committee agreed to send a letter to Ar Log to thank them for their time in considering our proposition but declining their acceptance due to their cost. Also by common consent, the Committee accepted the terms of *Calennig* for folk music during the weekend. Sian also informed us that Maxwell Roberts has agreed to perform during the Noson Lawen with his comedy sketch of a Welsh minister, and Prydwen Roberts and Joan Owen have consented to do recitations and readings.

Glenn and Barry will *initiate letters to David Gwesyn Smith and Louise Taliesin* offering them participation during the afternoon and evening *Cymanfa* sessions instead of the Grand Concert. These letters will contain agreement terms for their consideration.

Cheryl would like to secure the *pool area in the Harrisburg Hotel for the WAY activity* and will work with Carolee on that event.

Glenn suggested that we investigate the possibility of having *Welsh hymns played on the carillons in the local church during the entire weekend.*

A count was taken of how ^{MANY} ~~may~~ committee members were planning to stay in Harrisburg for the National. The hotels need to know this information since we receive one room for every 50 reservations. Five rooms already go the WNGGA Executive Committee. The total count was 15.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 23rd at 10:00 AM at the home of Margaret Supik in Bel Air, MD. The thrust of this meeting will be to prepare our next progress report. Nancy and Danielle will work on a telephone tree and attendance list for the group. The meeting was adjourned so as to allow committee members meet with staff of the Hilton to see their accommodations for a second time.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Wells
Recording Secretary

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.

FOUNDED 1929

July 21, 1994

MEMO TO: Ellis Jones
Jack Lewis

FROM: Nelson Llewellyn

RE: Harrisburg '95 Committee meeting minutes of 6/11/94

Just received these minutes as I came into the office tuesday AM after spending the weekend with our local Celtic Heritage friday, saturday and sunday and then spending monday to put things away and rest.

I talked with Glenn yesterday PM by phone and he indicated the committee will be meeting this saturday 7/23/94. Since some time went by from their June meeting until we received the minutes I asked if it would be possible to receive the 7/23 minutes shortly after the meeting. Glenn assured me this will be done.

Asked Glenn about Pendyrus Choir concert tour, before or after National, the choir will arrange their own tour with venues AFTER the National. This is good.

The committee will use their own stationery until the 1994/1995 National stationery is available.

Regarding registration soft ware, I indicated that Bellevue is using Micro Soft Access.

If you have any concerns about the minutes, please let me know.
DIOLCH!