



Harrisburg

Only 284 days to go!

Minutes
Oct 94

The October meeting of the WNGG Harrisburg '95 Committee was held at the Harrisburg Hilton Towers and the Harrisburg Hotel on 10-29-94 at 10:00 AM. The meeting was opened with prayer led by Rev. Richard Price Baskwill. Minutes from the previous meeting were read, corrected and approved.

Glenn Grove informed us that Sharon Hassinger is no longer our liaison with the Hilton since we have signed the contract with them. *Our new contact is Sarah Galbraith.* She will introduce us to the specialized managers of the Hilton.

Our special guest was John Alwyn Jones of the Wales Tourist Board. He came to see our current position in the '95 National and offer advice on procedures. The Wales Tourist Board has already purchased the back cover of the souvenir booklet for \$500.00. They will also help underwrite the airfare for Sian and Glenys Wyn and Calennig as well as partial sponsorship of the prize money for the Hymn Competition.

While we were on the *topic of airfare with John Alwyn Jones*, the subject of the Pendyrus Choir was brought up. Michele Griffiths is working with Virgin Atlantic and British Air for the lowest group rate into Baltimore or Newark airports. The choir will then be transported to Delta by bus. Hopefully, Calennig and the Wyns will also come on the same flight. They will need transportation to Harrisburg. *John Alwyn Jones advised us that it is usual for the Wales Tourist Board to take care of airfare, but the sponsoring organization pays for hotel expenses.* Glenn Grove informed us that David Greenslade has also offered to present a seminar but also needs assistance with airfare. John Alwyn Jones said that he would be discussing the airlines with Michele Griffiths in the near future. Michele is also arranging special conference rates with US Air for West Coast participants.

In exchange for the generosity of the Wales Tourist Board, we will see that the Wales Tourist Board will receive the greatest amount of exposure possible during the planning and procuring of the '95 National. John Alwyn Jones emphasized the need to justify his expenditures during the Nationals to his superiors.

Glenn Grove brought up some points of *old business* that the Executive Committee had been discussing with Nelson Llewellyn.

The WNGGA handles all aspects of the sale of hymnals at the Nationals. The new hymnal will be coming out for this National.

We are still waiting for a final decision on the ability to collect Restoration donations for the Chapel by means of the Registration form.

We are waiting for written authorization from the Hilton to allow the Welsh Chef to prepare the Banquet menu with their accommodations.

It was suggested that we have Sian Wyn play the harp at the Banquet.

Cheryl Mitchell will send an agreement to Jack Schaum listing his responsibilities and our provisions for his part in the '95 National.

Committee Reports:

At this time each committee head gave a brief report on their current status to give John Alwyn Jones some sort of idea on how the WTB can be of service.

Seminars:

Dick Baskwill reported that *letters have gone out to all prospective seminar leaders.* Responses are expected by November 21, 1994. To date Peter Williams and David Greenslade have returned signed agreements. David Greenslade is also requesting a half a table in the Welsh Market Place.

Another gentleman, *Mr. R. Griffith* has contacted our committee and offered to present a seminar on various topics of Welsh literature and poetry. He is an archdruid and is from Angelys.

Glenn Grove also received correspondence from *Lyn Gardiner* who is willing to lead a seminar. She specializes in poetry and prose and has published several works.

Dick Baskwill advised us that we already have 30 seminars scheduled. *It was agreed that we would wait for responses from these before we include other topics.* Other seminars will be included if time and scheduling allow. Our next step will be allocating rooms in the Hilton and Harrisburg Hotels to each seminar and arrange a schedule.

Dick Baskwill proposed a budget for the seminars. (Budget proposals will be detailed in a later report.) *John Alwyn Jones suggested that we investigate local sponsorship of each seminar by local businesses.* This would be a way smaller contributions could be utilized and also provide exposure for small businesses. John also suggested that this be done by personal contact for maximum results.

Banquet:

Michele Griffiths was not able to be with us but sent a phone message to the Committee instead. She talked with Nick Zalick of the Welsh Meat and Livestock Commission. The Welsh lamb can be shipped out of Wales with certain requirements. Communications (a letter) between US Customs and Wales must be arranged in order to import. Michele will work with US Customs and the Hilton to arrange this. It will probably cost about 2 British pounds per pound of lamb. *John Alwyn Jones will look into the possibility of obtaining the lamb for promotional expense instead of retail expense to defray the cost.* He will be working with Nick Zalick, the Hilton and Michele on this project.

We are still negotiating with Welsh chefs. Mark Salter, from the Inn at Perry Cabin, has offered to participate and Don Mills offered a second chef if we need one. John Alwyn Jones suggested that we pursue both chefs at this time. It would be more advantageous to work with a chef who will use local US items instead of one who only works with UK equivalents or specialty gourmet products. Tom Ward, of the Inn at Perry Cabin, advised us that Mark Salter will need a room for overnight and a complementary table in the Market Place. We will look into this.

John Alwyn Jones will also communicate with Abergavenny Foods to procure Welsh cheeses. He advised us that Ty Nant contains too much lead for Pennsylvania health requirements and we would do better with Prysgr. Prysgr will be imported in 1995. We also suggested Cariad Wines and Elderflower Spritz.

Registration:

Ron Roberts presented the idea for the registration package to be in booklet form instead of individual sheets of paper. John Alwyn Jones thought this would be a better format than done in previous years. *Barry Wells and Ron Roberts are working on a computer program for registration that will account for attendance, monies taken in, scheduling events, etc. that will help produce final reports.* It can be used to check in late registrants, also. Ron would like to meet with some committee members later in November to write up brief descriptions of each seminar and event to be included in the Registration form. Glenn Grove and Pat St. Clair will compose a letter of invitation that is to be included.

The subject of *early registration* was discussed. Many Nationals offered an early bird promotional item to encourage early registration to start monies coming into the treasury. Previous items ranged from coffee mugs to random drawings for special events (Frugal Gourmet). Glenn Grove brought an example of a commemorative pewter plate that was used for the Delta Centennial. It is made by Armital in Columbia, Pennsylvania. Plates, coasters and the like are cast with the logo of your choice. *It was decided for all members to spend some time thinking of items that might be applicable and bring suggestions to the next meeting.* By a vote of common consent, it was decided to offer an early bird incentive for the '95 National. Specifications on the incentive will be voted upon at a later date.

There are traditionally two mailings of the Registration forms. The first is in January and the second follows five months later in June. We will need promotional flyers from each hotel and their own registration forms to include.

Welsh Market Place:

Bill Markley advised us that the Hilton and Rileigh's approved the contract that was created for the Market Place. The mailing has already gone out to the vendors requesting their participation in the '95 National along with a contract and a Rileigh's packet. Bill Markley presented his proposed budget for the first mailing which totalled \$65.00. He has received a request from the NWAf for two tables and electricity. By a vote of common consent, the Committee agreed to furnish the NWAf with two complementary tables, but the NWAf must provide for their own electricity and any extra accommodations. The Committee also agreed by common consent to provide Cymru A'r Byd/Wales International with a complementary table as well.

Tours:

Bill St. Clair advised us that he has received the contracts with Rohrer Bus Company for the proposed tours. The total amount is due on August 1, 1995. We realized that the deadline date for Registration must be changed in order to include a count for the tours. By a vote of common consent, it was agreed to change the Registration deadline from August 17 to August 1, 1995. Bill St. Clair also requested volunteers for each bus to count occupants. Volunteers will receive free passage for the tours.

Publicity:

Glenn Grove informed the Committee that December's articles are now due. Cindy Seibel will write an article introducing committee members with biographies. Mike Granados will provide an article on the Hymn Competition. Margaret Supik is writing about the Pub Sign and Pat St. Clair and Glenn Grove will create an article for the Gymanfa overview.

Cindy Seibel requested the names and addresses of any contacts that we might have with Welsh affairs. She plans articles for all local papers, radio and television spots. Glenn suggested that she contact Peg English for help with WITF. Cindy Seibel will write a generic article for Todd Kohr to use with his work. She requests \$100.00 for mailing expenses.

At this time we had an hour break for lunch. We reconvened at the Harrisburg Hotel at 1:00 PM.

We met with Carolee Taylor at the Harrisburg Hotel for our afternoon meeting. There was a discussion on the Pub Sign and how to use it as a fund raiser. If we choose to employ a raffle, we must term it as a contest and the tickets are sold as donations for the contest. A license must be purchased in the State of Pennsylvania for about \$75.00 in order to legally collect monies in this manner. The contest could be heavily publicized in the Registration booklet or tickets could be included. Several options are still open on how to handle this fund raiser, and we will table discussion until the next meeting.

Margaret Supik, in charge of floral decorations, requested information on the floral arrangements that will be needed during the weekend. Flowers will be needed for the banquet tables, stage decorations and roses for the Memorial Service on Sunday morning.

It was suggested that we arrange for a businessman's meeting at one of the two hotels as soon as possible. This meeting would introduce us to local business people who may be able to sponsor our activities. We found out through our corporate mailing that only a few business responded to our letter because many businesses have already budgeted for 1995. We were too late. Perhaps this meeting will encourage businesses to realize the potential of business exposure in the '95 National.

Hilton Towers

One North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Sharon Hassinger/Sara Galbraith
717-237-6406

Todd Kohr Dept. of Conventions and Tourism
1-800-995-0969

Harrisburg Hotel

23 South Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Carolee Taylor
717-234-5021

Noson Lawen:

Sian Frick verified times for Thursday evening's events. The Noson Lawen is at 7:30 PM. Friday evening features the Banquet at 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM. The Pizza/Pool Party WAY activity will be held simultaneously. Calennig will then perform a folk concert at the Harrisburg Hotel from 9:00 PM until 10:00 PM to end the evening. The Grand Concert is scheduled for 7:30 PM on Saturday.

WAY:

Glenn Grove will inquire on any funds that may be available under WAY. Cheryl Mitchell presented a brief budget proposal.

Hospitality:

Danielle Wells reported that she and Barry Wells will be travelling to the Philadelphia Gymanfa Ganu to meet some of the members of the Welsh Guild and the Philadelphia Welsh Society. They will take along brochures and stickers. Hopefully, they will be able to make contact with prospective volunteers or arrange a meeting to promote this. Danielle hopes to have a base of 50 volunteers to work with various committees and make Welsh tea cakes. Both churches that have been asked about kitchen usage have given an affirmative answer. Two grocery stores with freezers have agreed verbally to help us store Welsh cakes, but letters will be sent out to verify this. Danielle submitted a budget proposal for her committee. Te bach receptions will be held after the Noson Lawen from 10:00 PM until 11:00 PM, following the Grand Concert from 9:30 PM until 11:00 PM and following the Evening Gymanfa Session from 9:30 PM to 11:00 PM. These will all be held at the Hilton.

Gymanfa Sessions:

Barry Wells will compose a letter to Glynne Jones requesting his selection of hymns. Cheryl Mitchell wrote a second letter to David Gwesyn Smith requesting his participation. No reply has been received by the deadline and we will pursue another soloist. It was suggested that we invite Robert Huw Morgan, Pendyrus' organist, to fill the position. By a vote of common consent, it was agreed to ask Robert Huw Morgan to be soloist for the Evening Gymanfa Session and offering \$150.00 for his services. A letter and agreement will go out to Robert Huw Morgan.

The Pendyrus Choir will have a special buffet area set up for them and an area to rest and freshen up for the Evening Gymanfa.

It was noted that during the buffet supper in Bellevue, the food ran out rather quickly. We will ask the Hilton and Harrisburg Hotels to place waiters/waitresses at the buffet area to insure portion control.

Glenn Grove informed us that *we can seat 1880 in the Forum*, according to Fuller Runion.

Civic Ceremony:

Priscilla Sherman has reserved the Capital steps for the ceremony at 2:00 PM on Thursday, August 31, 1995. We cannot fly the Welsh flag over the Capital that weekend, but we can have it on the steps. The Hilton has agreed to fly the Welsh flag the entire weekend. The police department has agreed to block off Third Street to allow the Bangor High School Band to play and march. Mayor Reed of Harrisburg responded to Priscilla's letter and will contact her after the first of the year for further arrangements. The Canadian national anthem and flag are to be included whenever appropriate.

Other Related Business:

Glenn Grove spoke to Jane Phillips of Lancaster, PA, regarding banners that may be created and displayed in the corridor leading to Strawberry Square. Designs of the dragon, leek and daffodil will be made and Welsh Societies will be asked to make a contribution to have their names displayed on the banners. Jane has agreed to lead this project. By a vote of common consent, the Committee agreed to have Jane Phillips take control of this project from start to finish.

The Committee received a letter from John Lewis regarding the Pendyrus Choir's East Coast Tour. They plan to extend their tour from Boston to Atlanta. It will be a full two weeks following the '95 National.

Treasurer's Report:

Previous Balance:	\$415.03
Deposit	\$ 16.00
Expense (Y Drych)	\$150.00
Current Balance	\$281.03

The Committee agreed that we now need to order a large supply of T shirts, golf shirts and sweat shirts before the Christmas season hits us. An emergency order was obtained for our trip to Bellevue. Skylight has offered us the best arrangement for our needs. By a vote of common consent, we will deal with Skylight for our apparel printing. Chuck Vaughan has offered to lend money in order to purchase a large supply. The order will cost us \$3163.44 which includes 7 dozen sweat shirts in L, XL and XXL; 7 dozen golf shirts also in the same sizes and 10 dozen T shirts in the same sizes. This will make 288 shirts at 1994 prices. Shirts will be ash grey and ready in two weeks. It was suggested that we sell the T shirts for \$12.00, golf shirts for \$18.00 and sweat shirts for \$20.00. Pat St. Clair will look into the different color combinations for the logo to see what would be visible and what would be the best price.

Pat St. Clair and Glenn Grove stressed the fact that proposed budgets are now due from each committee chairperson. We will use next meeting to go over figures and work up a budget for the entire project.

Next meeting will be at the home of Glenn Grove in Delta, PA, at 2:00 PM on November 19, 1994. The emphasis of the meeting will be creating a workable budget for our project.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Wells
Recording Secretary

Attendance:

Barry Wells
Margaret Supik
Glenn Grove
Dick Baskwill
Theresa Perdue
Cheryl Mitchell

Danielle Wells
John Alwyn-Jones
Pat St. Clair
Ron Roberts
Priscilla Sherman
Sian Frick

Nancy Hannah
Cindy Seibel
Bill St. Clair
Bill Markley
Art Sherman