



# The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

Welsh News from Wisconsin

<http://wggaw.org>

Winter/Spring 2018

## **Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus! Happy St. David's Day!**

Greetings and Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus/Happy St. David's Day from the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin (WGGAW). We trust our annual newsletter finds you well and excited about this year's coming events described below.

What is our theme for this year? It is simply *Hiraeth*. That undefinable Welsh word that imparts a deep longing for or return to ... most often home or homeland. Indeed, if acknowledged, we have Hiraeth. Of course, Hiraeth takes many forms and senses.

This year, WGGAW hopes to rekindle in you and your loved ones a hiraeth to return to the festival of sacred song, to reconnect with your Welsh heritage, and to sing praises to God.

As the songwriter spoke:

Far away a voice is calling,  
Bells of memory chime.  
Come home again, come home again,  
They call through the oceans of time.

We'll keep a welcome in the hillsides,  
We'll keep a welcome in the Vales.  
This land you knew will still be singing,  
When you come home again to Wales.

This land of song will keep a welcome,  
And with a love that never fails,  
We'll kiss away each hour of hiraeth,  
When you come home again to Wales.

See you at the Gymanfa.

Dale Hughes  
President, WGGAW



### **About the WGGAW**

The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin (WGGAW) sponsors and conducts the State Gymanfa Ganu and the Christmas Gymanfa Ganu which take place at various churches around the state.

If you are interested in hosting a gymanfa ganu at your church or joining the WGGAW Board, contact Dale Edwin Hughes, President of WGGAW, at 608-852-4025 or [hugheslaw@jvl.net](mailto:hugheslaw@jvl.net).

**How do you make a great Welsh Cake?  
How do you find your Welsh ancestral roots?  
Who will win the Eisteddfod music, literary, and visual arts prize?**

**Turn the page to find all the answers.**

## Sunday, May 6, 2018 – Gymanfa Ganu

The 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu (Welsh hymn sing) will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Plymouth, Wisconsin. Phone: 920-893-3411.

This year we are pleased to welcome Dulais Rhys as our conductor for the 2018. Dulais Rhys conducted our State Gymanfa Ganu in 2007 and we are delighted that he has returned to lead our singing. Dulais is a native of Wales, having grown up in Carmarthen. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Wales with his dissertation on the life and music of Joseph Parry. He also studied at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, Baltimore, Maryland. His teaching appointments include Trinity College of Music in London, and Swansea University. Up until a recent move to Montona, Dulais was on the faculty of the Amabile School of Music and Northern California Music & Arts Culture Center in San Francisco, California. He is a composer, arranger, conductor (choral/orchestral), music competition adjudicator, journalist, media contributor, and public lecturer on various music related topics. Welcome back, Dulais!



Our organist will be **Steven Jensen** of Milwaukee, one of the pre-eminent gymanfa ganu accompanists in North America. The North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW) has selected a small pool of accompanists to participate in the NAFOW, including playing for the National Gymanfa Ganu on a rotating basis. Steven Jensen of



Milwaukee was one of only three accompanists selected from all of North America. He is scheduled to play at the 2018 North American Festival of Wales/National Gymanfa Ganu.

***First Congregational Church,  
1405 Wisconsin Highway 67,  
Plymouth WI***



### Plymouth, Wisconsin

“Plymouth is the second largest city in Sheboygan County with vibrant downtown that has plenty to do. You can listen to live Irish music at the historic 52 Stafford Hotel, try a flight of beer at our local Plymouth Brewing Company brew pub, or try a local favorite, Antonio's Sports Bar and Nightclub that features great music and occasional comedy routines.

For art lovers, make sure to visit the Plymouth Art Center and Gallery art center to see collections of art from both local and international artists! There are several boutiques like Seranya Studios and Cassy Tully Art that feature works from local artists.”

Excerpt from [www.plymouthwisconsin.com](http://www.plymouthwisconsin.com)

#### Attractions in and around Plymouth:

- \* Above & Beyond Children's Museum
- \* Aviation Heritage Center of Sheboygan County
- \* Cheese Counter and Dairy Heritage Center
- \* Gallery 110 North
- \* Henschel's Museum of Indian History
- \* Plymouth Arts Foundation
- \* Plymouth Dirt Track Racing
- \* Plymouth Historical Museum
- \* Sheboygan County Historical Society Museum
- \* Wade House (see Saturday morning May 5 in the Calendar of Events)

## Saturday May 5, 2018 (pre-registration for Eisteddfod participation only)

### Seminar Information



#### Welsh Teacake Bake-Off

Bakers get ready!! To kick off the week-end events, contestants are invited to bake their delicious Welsh cakes. All contestants are to bring enough ingredients (your choice of ingredients) to make 2 dozen Welsh cakes, mix the ingredients at the competition, and fry the dough on provided griddles.

Like the well-known PBS show, contestants will have a set time to mix, bake, and present their samples. Then they will be judged by a panel of two experts.

For more information and to register please email Kim Corbin at [kimacorbin@gmail.com](mailto:kimacorbin@gmail.com) or call her at 608-393-3748. A limited number of bakers are allowed, so enter early. Pob lwc! (Good Luck!)

#### Finding Your Welsh Roots

Tracing your family history can be tricky, fraught with dead ends, and frustrations. Learn from an expert, Kent Marsden, as he guides us through resources and strategies to "find" your Welsh ancestry.

Kent Marsden has taught math and science instructor at Blackhawk Technical College in Janesville, WI for the last 28 years. Although Kent is not Welsh, his wife, Rhonda (Theede) Marsden is. He became interested in Welsh genealogy after looking through Rhonda's family's collection of photographs from her home near Columbus, WI. Researching the Welsh side of Rhonda's family has presented some challenges which will become apparent during the presentation.

### Saturday Raffle

Waiting for the raffle winner is a basket full of Welsh and other Celtic treats and surprises from local Plymouth merchants.

### Saturday Evening Meal

First Congregational Church will serve a spaghetti meal. No reservation is required.

### Motel Accommodations

AmericInn Hotel	Contact: 920-892-2669
Baymont Inn & Suites	Contact: 920-893-6781
52 Stafford Irish Hotel & Pub	Contact: 920-893-0552

### Eisteddfod Rules and Prior Winners

To view prior Eisteddfod events and winners and review eisteddfod rules, see the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin website:  
<http://wggaw.org/eisteddfod>.

### 2018 Eisteddfod

We welcome your entries for this year's Eisteddfod! The theme for this year is "Hiraeth" or "Longing." You may submit entries in the visual, literary arts, or musical categories. Visual arts include painting, photography, ceramics, textiles, sculpture, etc. The literary arts category includes poems or essays. (See General Rules below for details.) The musical category includes instrumental and/or vocal. Entries are judged on the following criteria: how well the entry captures the Eisteddfod theme; the extent to which it incorporates Celtic components; and the quality of the work.

The literary arts winner receives the "Bard Chair," the visual arts winner receives the "Crown," and the musical category winner receives the "Baton." The Eisteddfod Committee realizes that significant thought, effort, and time go into the creation of literary and visual arts submissions. For that reason during the Eisteddfod ceremonies, all who submit entries will be recognized and thanked for their efforts.

#### General Rules for Submissions:

- ◇ All submitted work, except musical entries, must be original, created specifically for the Eisteddfod competition.
- ◇ Submit your entry using a pseudonym (*ffugenw*) rather than your actual name.

**Poems:** 50 lines or less and may be submitted in English and/or Welsh.

**Essays:** 750 words or less and may be submitted in English and/or Welsh.

**Visual Arts:** Including, but not limited to, paintings; photographs; textile items such as quilts, fiber crafts, knitted pieces, or weavings; ceramics; and sculptures. Include a brief statement about how the piece was created and its connection to the theme.

Literary and visual works will be displayed on Saturday and Sunday at the church. To be awarded the Bard Chair, the Crown and/or the Baton, the winning artist must be present at the Announcement of Winners on Saturday, **May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 5:00 p.m. at First Congregational Church in Plymouth WI.

**Deadline for Submissions.** Submit all poem or essay entries to Mary Williams-Norton by email at [williamsnorton1858@centurytel.net](mailto:williamsnorton1858@centurytel.net) no later than Midnight **April 19, 2018**. Enter all visual art works, and or musical entries, by 11:00 a.m. on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> to the First Congregational Church in Plymouth, WI.

**More Information.** If you have questions, contact Mary Williams-Norton by email (above) or at (608) 635-4946.

## Weekend Schedule

### Friday, May 4

Location: 52 Stafford—Irish Inn & Pub  
52 Stafford Street, Plymouth WI

6:00 Pub Night

### Saturday, May 5

Location: First Congregational Church,  
1405 Wisconsin Highway 67, Plymouth WI

10:00 Wade House—Quilt Show and optional tour  
Contact 920-526-3271 for more info  
<https://wadehouse.wisconsinhistory.org/>

1:30 Welsh Cake Bakeoff (see related article)

2:30 Tea Break—sample the bakeoff teacakes

3:30 Welsh Genealogy, Kent Marsden

4:30 Preview of the 2019 North American Festival of Wales which will be held in Milwaukee

5:00 Announcement of Winners of “The Apron” (Welsh teacake baking), “The Chair” (literary arts) and “The Crown” (visual arts)

5:30 Dinner

7:00 Musical Eisteddfod followed by the awarding of “The Baton”

### Sunday, May 6

Location: First Congregational Church,  
1405 Wisconsin Highway 67, Plymouth WI

2:30 Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu  
Conductor: Dulais Rhys  
Organist: Steven Jensen



## Peniel Events

W9644 Zoar Road, Oshkosh WI

May 12 (Saturday) - 6:00 PM New  
Generation Singers from Central WI Christian School, Waupun

June 9 (Saturday) - 6:00 PM Fond du Lac Women's Chorus

June 23 (Saturday) - 6:00 PM Traditional and gospel hymns led by  
Larry Conrad

July 21 (Saturday) - 6:00 PM Joe Corbin and Cowboy Church—old  
gospel songs & wear your cowboy duds

August 25 (Saturday) - 6:00 PM The Peniel Quartet (Chris Guy,  
Devin Scherck, Josh Giese and Tom White), Sarah Conrad,  
Accompanist

August 26 (Sunday) - 2:30 PM 96th Annual Gymanfa Ganu

September 15 (Saturday) 6:00 PM Wrap Up Talent Night with Steve  
Schultz, the Kamps Family and other talent

## 2019 North American Festival of Wales in Milwaukee

North America's largest gathering of Welsh-Americans, the North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW) is coming to Milwaukee on September 5-9, 2019!



North American  
Festival  
of Wales

the Welsh North American Association

The Welsh North American Association directors, along with a Milwaukee venue committee, are under

way making plans for the 5-day festival.

The central event of the NAFOW weekend is the National Gymanfa Ganu, a 2-session Welsh hymn sing with 500 or more voices – an inspiring and awesome experience! Many other activities and events have become features over the years: area tours, seminars and workshops, a marketplace of things Welsh, concert, banquet, eisteddfod, folk night, pub night singing and “after glow” hymn singing each night, to name a few.

The Milwaukee NAFOW is an excellent opportunity for our Wisconsin Welsh community to showcase our talent in seminars and workshops, in the eisteddfod competitions, opening ceremony and tours. If you would like to be involved in contributing to this event, please contact Jan Batty (414-861-2202) or Danny Proud (608-212-3893).



## 2018 Cornish Fest Gymanfa Ganu

Mineral Point's annual Cornish/Celtic Festival will now have a “mini” Gymanfa Ganu. The Cornish Society of Mineral Point has invited us to participate in their fall event. Reverend Joseph Corbin will conduct the “mini” Gymanfa, introducing those celebrating their Celtic roots to the uplifting four-part Welsh hymns.

Please mark your calendars and join our Cornish cousins on Sunday, September 30, 2018, at 2:30 p.m., at the Trinity Episcopal Church at 403 High St., Mineral Point. A Cornish tea will be served afterward.

For more information phone Rev. Joseph Corbin at 608-484-8307 or email him at [jcorbin@rucls.net](mailto:jcorbin@rucls.net).

## The Welsh Songfest Tour of Nebraska

by Mary Triola and Bill Reese

Reprinted by permission of Ninnau

The St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska sponsored a week-long "Welsh Songfest Tour of Nebraska" to celebrate Nebraska's Sesquicentennial, and the continuing contribution of Welsh-Americans to Nebraska culture.

Organized by the Society's president, Lori McAlister, the tour started October 15 with two shows at the Midwest Theater in Scottsbluff and moved eastwards, stopping at "The Most Unlikely Place", (a large café/arts venue in Wellen), the Widman Cinema in Central City, Westminster Presbyterian Church in Omaha, and ended in Lincoln on October 22 at the annual Gymanfa Ganu at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

The 90-minute long presentation combined Welsh folk music and stories performed by the Virginia-based Welsh band, Moch Pryderi, (Mary Triola, Rik Rice, Luke Gray, and Bill Reese), with a Gymanfa Ganu led by song leader Joe Corbin of Reedsburg, Wisconsin. The hymns were integrated into the Welsh folk music presentation and the audience was eager not only to listen but to participate with enthusiasm in the communal singing.

Each show was preceded by a showing of "Pobl y Paith/People of the Prairie: The Welsh in Nebraska." This 20-minute presentation was produced by the Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre in Wymore, Nebraska.



*Moch Pryderi and Joe Corbin*

In addition to stage shows, the tour participated in numerous arts outreach programs, playing in schools and retirement homes along the way. At each stop the band also demonstrated a variety of traditional Welsh musical instruments including the Welsh Triple Harp,

Pibgorn, and Pibau Cŵd. Moch Pryderi and Joe Corbin were also the guests of Jose Soto at Southeast Community College in Lincoln. The band gave a lecture and demonstration of Traditional Welsh Folk Instruments and Joe Corbin spoke about the Eisteddfod and his participation in the event.



*Joe Corbin, Lori McAlister, Mary Triola, Bill Reese, Luke Gray, Rik Rice*

When asked about the success of the tour, Nebraska Welsh President Lori McAlister commented, "The statewide Welsh Song Fest Tour was an amazing experience. Having worked with the members of Moch Pryderi to celebrate the St. David's Welsh Society Centennial in 2010 and with song leader, Joe Corbin, on our annual Gymanfa Ganu for several years, my expectations were high. Our week on the road knocked them out of the park. Putting it all together, along with our hosts at each stop, was extremely gratifying. It confirmed that the extra effort to take a statewide organization out into the state is well worth it. I met so many new friends with an interest in their Welsh connections. I met one long-time society member for the first time as geography prevents him attending our usual events held in Lincoln. While we can't mount an effort like this every year, I'm hopeful that our new connections will open the way and provide the energy to celebrate Welsh heritage all across Nebraska every year."

Many patrons drove a long way—an hour or more—to participate in these programs. Most audience members were not aware of the richness and widespread nature of Welsh culture in Nebraska. The enthusiasm and warm reception of these audiences, and of the volunteers who hosted these shows, was truly amazing.

("Pobl y Paith/People of the Prairie: The Welsh in Nebraska" is available for viewing on YouTube)

## Peniel Chapel Renovation Update

The Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Association continues to address renovation issues with a large project voted upon at our fall meeting. We have voted to have siding installed on the exterior.

Wrightway Home Improvement from Fond du Lac has provided our first estimate which includes ABC seamless steel siding as well as insulation and all the additions to make the entire building complete and look beautiful with trim/soffit/fascia, etc. We will vote on which of those additions we would like. All estimates should be in by March 1. We always hope to have our projects completed by the annual Gymanfa Ganu in August. However, we will not sign a contract until all the funds are raised.

Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Association began renovations in 2011. Monthly summer worship/musical events began in 2014.

This year we have extended invitations to more musical groups and have seven dates planned. (See the calendar of events.)

Please prayerfully consider donating to our current renovation project. You may send your donation to Peniel Gymanfa Ganu Association, Jean White, Treasurer, 1769 Creek Vu Dr., North Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

We continue to welcome new volunteers, whether one time or as an ongoing member of our Peniel family.

Thank you and God Bless You,

Carolee Schultz

Contact info: 920-748-3090

joynjesus4you@yahoo.com

## 2018 Wisconsin Gymanfa Ganu Schedule

### Welsh Weekend & WI State Gymanfa Ganu (2:30)

May 4-6, 2018, First Congregational Church  
1405 Wisconsin Highway 67, Plymouth WI

### Peniel/Rewey Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM

June 10, 2018, Peniel Presbyterian Church, 1449 Peniel Road, Mineral Point WI

### Milwaukee Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30 PM

July 15, 2018, Christ United Methodist Church, 5200 South 48th Street, Greenfield - Director: Trefor Williams

### Peniel/Pickett Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM

August 26, 2018, Peniel Church, W9644 Zoar Road, Oshkosh WI  
Reed Organist: Tom White, Pianist: Sarah Conrad, Directors: Marilyn Schröder & Ann E. Lemmenes

### Wild Rose Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM

September 16, 2018, Wild Rose Presbyterian Church, 501 Jackson Street, Wild Rose WI, Director: Ann E. Lemmenes

### Cambria Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM and 6:00PM

Supper served between sessions

October 14, 2018, Cambria First Presbyterian Church, corner of Florence and Towyn Streets, Cambria WI

### Christmas Gymanfa Ganu –

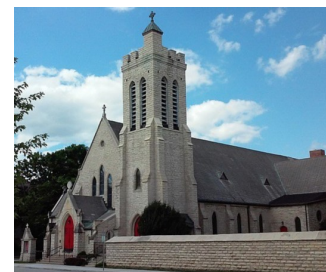
2:30 PM, November 18, 2018

Historic Cathedral Church of St. Paul the Apostle

51 W. Division Street

Fond du Lac WI

(Hearing loop available)



*Above: Historic Cathedral Church of St. Paul the Apostle*

## WGGAW Inc. Board of Trustees

President	Dale Hughes
Vice President	Bron Wentzel
Treasurer	Dick Myers
Secretary	Sue Stealey

Board Members: Janis Jones Batty, Rev. Joe Corbin, Kim Corbin, Barbara Cummings, Hugh Davis, Mary Davis, Joshua Giese, Phyllis Griffith, Christopher Guy, Carole Hausmann, Connie Herpel, Troy Hughes, Ann E. Lemmenes, Janet Morgan, Danny Proud, Devin Scherck, Marilyn Schröder, Rev. Tom White, Jean White, Joe Whitmore, Gwilym Williams, Dr. Mary Williams-Norton

## 2018 Other Wisconsin Welsh Events

### Mineral Point Cornish/Celtic Festival Sept 28-30

Mini Gymanfa Ganu—September 30 (see related article)

Website: [www.cornishfest.org](http://www.cornishfest.org)

### Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area

1st Sat. of February, April, June, October & December

Summer picnic—August 25

Website: [www.milwaukeewelshclub.org](http://www.milwaukeewelshclub.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MilwaukeeWelsh/info>

Sponsors the Welsh booth at:

- \* Highland Games—September 1-2, Waukesha Expo
- \* Int'l Folk Fair—November 16-18, Milwaukee St Fair

## In Memory of ...

Anna Mae Badciong    Gwendolyn Griffiths  
Janet Butzler        John Hausmann  
Leora Marie Corbin   Robert T. Williams

Please call Dale Hughes (608) 846-7338 with additional names to include in the State Gymanfa Ganu bulletin.

## North American Welsh Newspaper

Learn about what is going on with the Welsh in North America in addition to articles about the Welsh culture by reading the **Ninnau**.

\$20 per year for email version  
\$30 per year for printed version

Order the **Ninnau** at:  
**Box 712, Trumansburg, New York 14886**  
**ninnaupublications@gmail.com**

## 2018 Welsh Events Outside Wisconsin

**Chicago Gymanfa Ganu** – 2:30PM  
June 10, 2018 (Conductor: Ann E. Lemmenes)  
Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church,  
744 Fair Oaks Avenue, Oak Park IL  
Website: [www.chicagowelshcambrian.org](http://www.chicagowelshcambrian.org)

**Iowa Gymanfa Ganu**—2:00PM  
July 8, 2018, Welsh Congregational Church of Old Man's Creek,  
4401 Sharon Center Road, Iowa City, IA

**Cwrs Cymraeg (Welsh language course)**  
July 15 – 22, 2018, Hamline, Univ., St. Paul MN  
Website: [www.madog.org](http://www.madog.org) / Email: [secretary@madog.org](mailto:secretary@madog.org)

**Welsh Heritage Week**  
July 15 – 22, 2018, Richmond, VA  
Website: [www.welshheritageweek.org](http://www.welshheritageweek.org)  
Email: [hwyl@ptd.net](mailto:hwyl@ptd.net) Phone: 570-814-7689

**North American Festival of Wales,  
including the National Gymanfa Ganu**  
Labor Day Weekend (Aug. 30 – Sept. 3, 2018)  
Alexandria, VA  
Website: [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org) / Email: [IHG@theWNAA.org](mailto:IHG@theWNAA.org)  
Phone: 607-279-7402

## “Deuwch, Canwn I’r Arglwydd”

## “Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord”

- If you are interested in supporting the work and programs of The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin, Inc.
- If you would like to honor or memorialize someone and would like recognition in the May Gymanfa Ganu bulletin

**Please complete the following form and check made out to WGGAW by April 8, 2018**

**SEND TO: Dick Myers, Treasurer—9140 N. Sycamore Court, Bayside, WI 53217-1614**

Donation levels:    \_\_\_ Bardd/Bard \$100.00+  
                             \_\_\_ Noddwr/Patron \$25.00- - \$100.00  
                             \_\_\_ Cyfaill/Friend \$5.00-\$25.00

Recognition:        \_\_\_ Please indicate if you would prefer to remain anonymous.

**In Memory of or In Honor of:** (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Got Email?

Our newsletter is quite an expense to mail – we’d love to send it to you via email. Send your email address to Jan Batty at [rbatty@wi.rr.com](mailto:rbatty@wi.rr.com) and include your name, home address and phone number and request to get off our snail mail list! Diolch yn fawr!

### Don't Want Our Newsletter?

Do you want to stop receiving our newsletter altogether? Call Jan Batty at 414-861-2202 or email your request to [rbatty@wi.rr.com](mailto:rbatty@wi.rr.com).

The Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin  
c/o Jan Batty, Newsletter Editor  
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