September 2022

Dear St. David's Society Members and Friends,

Eighteen months have passed since our last correspondence on March 1, 2021 when I informed you that for the first time since the founding of the St. David's Society in 1889, we weren't able to



gather to celebrate St. David's Day. Since then another St. David's Day has passed without a celebration due to the pandemic. But all is not lost for 2022...

We will celebrate the dedication of the Garth Dorwen Shelter at Pritchard Park on Sunday, Sept. 18 from noon – 2 p.m.

Please call Sue Evans at (262) 633-7819 to let us know how many from your family to expect.

We'll provide a light lunch of sandwiches, chips, dessert and soft drinks in the pavilion. After a short annual meeting, we'll have a drawing for door prizes of Welsh items and enjoy our time together.

As you may recall, the society donated \$3,000 to Racine County in 2019. The South Shelter at Pritchard Park now has a permanent reminder of the generous donation Ginevra Pritchard Williams made to Racine County. The plaque affixed to the shelter tells the story of her gift of 24 acres of land in 1942 to establish the Owen P. Pritchard Family Memorial Park.

Ginevra's grandparents, Robert and Margrad Pritchard emigrated from Penygroes, a rural community near Caernarfon, North Wales in 1842. The following year they purchased 100 acres in Mount Pleasant along the north side of Durand Avenue mostly east of Ohio Street. Robert built a log house there and named the homestead Garth Dorwen, the same name as the family farm in Wales.

In addition to honoring her family and Welsh heritage, Ginevra also remembered the St. David's Society of Racine & Vicinity as the beneficiary of a memorial fund from which dividends continue to be paid, allowing the group to carry on Ginevra's philanthropy by donating funds for park improvements and other projects to preserve Welsh heritage and culture in Racine.

Hope to see you on September 18!

Katie Humphrey, Secretary & Treasurer St. David's Society of Racine & Vicinity





About Garth Dorwen

Thanks to the generosity of Ginevra Pritchard Williams, Racine County received 24 acres of Ginevra's family farm after she died in 1942 to establish the Owen P. Pritchard Family Memorial Park.

Ginevra's grandparents, Robert and Margrad Pritchard emigrated from North Wales in 1842. They purchased 100 acres in Mount Pleasant along the north side of Durand Avenue, mostly east of Ohio Street and built a log house there. They named it Garth Dorwen after the family farm in Wales.

Ginevra's father Owen, born in 1827, was one of Robert and Margrad's 10 children. He and his wife, Sally Ann, purchased 80 acres on Green Bay Road just south of Durand and later acquired the Garth Dorwen land from the estate of his father.

Ginevra, one of Owen's two daughters, married Thomas R. Williams. The couple had no children. Ginevra decided to donate the portion of Garth Dorwen located west of Ohio Street to Racine County with the requirement that the county construct two granite pillars at the park's entrance, which remain today.

In addition to honoring her family and Welsh heritage, Ginevra remembered the St. David's Society of Racine & Vicinity as the beneficiary of a memorial fund from which dividends continue to be paid, allowing the group to carry on Ginevra's philanthropy by donating funds for park improvements and other projects to preserve Welsh heritage and culture in Racine.