# Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin



### February 2008 Newsletter

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http://www.ripon.edu/academics/faculty/nortonm/cymanfaoedd.html



## 2008 State Gymanfa Ganu—A Welsh Weekend for Everyone

## " Penwythnos Cymreig i Bawb "

## May 3-4 in Wisconsin Dells

This year is the occasion of the **76<sup>th</sup> Annual State Gymanfa Ganu** in Wisconsin, **and also** this year **everyone** with even the slightest interest in Welsh heritage, culture, and fun can participate in a **weekend** event: Penwythnos Cymreig i Bawb, **Welsh Weekend for Everyone**.

Wisconsin Dells, self-proclaimed water park capital of the world, is the destination, and family fun the unifying theme of this May 3-4 event. United Presbyterian Church (730 Cedar St., Wisconsin Dells) will be the venue for both the Saturday activities program and the Gymanfa Ganu on Sunday.

## Saturday, May 3—Activities for All Ages!

Festivities will begin at 9:00 a.m. at United Presbyterian Church with refreshments and getacquainted games and songs. The entire Saturday program is geared to fun for people of all ages. We especially want children to attend and bring along their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and any other family members!

The morning program will feature games, singing, and learning *Cymraeg*. Trefor Williams, native Welsh speaker, will lead the Welsh language-learning activities. Mary Davis will be helping children learn a Welsh song to present at the *Prynhawn Llawen* (Merry Afternoon, similar to the traditional *Noson Llawen*, or Merry Evening) and again at the Gymanfa Ganu on Sunday afternoon. Mary Williams-Norton and others will lead various games. The morning will be divided into several short sessions so that everyone can try out a variety of activities.

For lunch, families can eat in Wisconsin Dells before we reconvene. In the afternoon we will enjoy Welsh cake-making-and-tasting led by Kim and Joe Corbin. There will be more games and language learning and an opportunity try out Welsh folk dancing led by Danny Proud.

The afternoon will conclude with a family-style *Prynhawn Llawen* led by Trefor Williams. Everyone is invited to share a song, story, or other activity with the group. If you enjoyed the *Noson Lawen* last May under Trefor's direction, you won't want to miss this family-style sequel. Should you be unable to attend the Saturday activities leading up to the *Prynhawn Llawen*, you are most welcome to come to just this event. Mary Davis's children's group will present their newly-learned song, and winners of the various games held earlier in the day will receive prizes.

What would an exciting event be without a souvenir T-shirt? Tom Muich of Madison is creating a design that will be made into a silk screen with which we can print the design onto a white or pastel T-shirt or sweatshirt. Plan to bring a shirt (cotton or cotton/polyester blend work best) for each person in your family group so you can proclaim that you have experienced *Penwythnos Gymreig i Bawb* and are proud of your connections to Wales! We'll print and heat-set the shirts during the day.

## Stay at the Kalahari Resort

The *Prynhawn Llawen* will end about 4:00 p.m., which happens to be check-in time at the Kalahari Resort. Our group has a special rate (\$139.00 plus tax for 2-bed room for up to 4 people **including 4 passes to the indoor water park**). To reserve your room at the special rate, you must call Kalahari directly at 1-877-253-5466 **by April 2** and mention that you are part of the "**Welsh Weekend for Everyone**" group.

We also have a hospitality room at the resort where you can come to socialize, eat Welsh cakes, play Scrabble *yn Gymraeg*, etc., in the late afternoon and evening.

## Sunday, May 4—Gymanfa Ganu

The 76<sup>th</sup> annual State Gymanfa Ganu will begin on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at United Presbyterian Church, 730 Cedar St., Wisconsin Dells. The session will be followed by a tasty te bach.

The director, the **Rev. Joe Corbin** of Reedsburg, Wisconsin, is much in demand at cymanfaoedd in Wisconsin and in the Midwest, and is known for his ability to bring out the hwyl (spirit and enthusiasm) of all participants. **Steven Jensen** of Milwaukee will be the accompanist. Steve has played at countless cymanfaoedd in Wisconsin and has had the honor of accompanying at the National Gymanfa Ganu.

Directions: Take I-90/94 to Exit 87. Go east on Highway 13 into Wisconsin Dells. Six blocks after crossing the river. turn right on Cedar Street. The church is on the first block.

## **Weekend Registration**

To help defray the costs for the Saturday activities and the church facilities and to encourage families to come to Wisconsin Dells together, we have a registration fee of \$10.00 for each **family group**. Family groups should register together. Please use the registration form enclosed. Since we need to have an idea in advance of how many people will attend, we ask that you mail your form and fee to Vicki York no later than April 16. If you are able to attend only the Prynhawn Llawen, you do not need to register in advance or pay the \$10.00 registration fee,

## **Prynhawn Llawen Registration Form**

To participate in the games, activities, and Prynhawn Llawen at United Presbyterian Church, Wisconsin Dells, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 3, fill out the form below and send it—along with your check for \$10.00\* (per family group) payable to **Cambrian Heritage Society**—to

Ms. Victoria York, 325 West Prairie Ave., Lake Mills, WI 53551 and postmark it by April 16.

Ages 6-10	Children under 6						
If you would like to be part of the Prynhawn Llawen, what will you do as performance or activity?							
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\*There is no fee for those who attend only the *Prynhawn Llawen* (starting at 2:30 p.m.), but you will be encouraged to make a donation at the door.

## **WGGAW Membership Form**

You can support the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin (WGGAW) by joining or renewing your Association membership. Gifts received by April 20 will be recognized in the program on May 6. Categories of giving:

•Bardd/Bard-\$100.00 or more

•Noddwr/Patron-\$25.00 to \$99.99

•Cyfaill/Friend--\$5.00 to \$24.99

Anyone who contributes to the Association automatically becomes a member or renews your membership, and is put on the mailing list. Current Association members also can use the form below to mail gifts. Contributions are tax deductible.

\_\_\_\_\_ (clip out here) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to: Dick Myers, WGGAW Treasurer, 1052 Stratford Court, Racine, WI 53406.

#### Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin Membership Dues and Contributions

Name		
Address/City/State/ZIP_	 	
Phone		

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

## Wisconsin Welsh Mourn the Passing of Members and Friends

We note with sadness the passing of the following from our community:

Nick Barsamian, South Milwaukee David Emmett Guy, Fond du Lac Evelyn T. Jones, West Allis Rachel Mary (Rae) Jones, Bloomington, Indiana Louis Kinyon, Pickett Viola (White) Mueller, North Fond du Lac Estelle Roberts Schubert, Madison Elizabeth (Betty) M. Spaar, Stevens Point Marge Stealy, Waukesha Eleanor Lee Thomas, Waupaca Russell Williams, Sparta Mabel (Lari) York, Fort Atkinson

Our sympathy goes out to the loved ones who remain.

Please send additional names of those who should be included in the Memorial List on the State Gymanfa Ganu program to Dick Myers (with the subject of "WGGAW Memorial" on the email or envelope) at 1052 Stratford Court, Racine, WI 53406-7002 or dickmyers@wi.rr.com. The deadline for submissions is April 1.

## Albany, Wisconsin, Area Named Official Historic Welsh Site

On Sunday, June 29, the dedication of Albany, Wisconsin, as a Wisconsin Historical Site will highlight the Albany Welsh Pioneer Families and Friends Reunion. Welsh pioneers settled in the scenic south central Wisconsin area around Albany between 1844 and 1881. Unable to purchase land in Wales, 77 Welsh families with 40 Welsh surnames emigrated from Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire in Wales to purchase land from the U.S. government for \$1.25 an acre after the removal of the HoChunk tribe following the Blackhawk War. Many Green County residents are descendants of these pioneers; Albany becomes the fourth Welsh settlement in the county to be recognized as an historic site.

Plans are underway for a day of celebration in the village, with descendants converging from all over the United States. Cynthia Bagley, who spent years working on the project for recognizing the Welsh settlement, invites the Wisconsin Welsh community to join in dedicating the official state marker and in other festivities. Details will be made available to all the state Welsh organizations. For information, contact Loren and Cynthia Bagley, 415 Church Street, Clinton, WI 53525, or 608-676-4289, or cbagley@charter.net. The February 2008 issue of *Ninnau* has a front page article on the recognition of the Albany settlement.

Original pioneer families from Wales:

Ingram	Edmonds	Hamer	Jones	Pryce	Swancutt
Lewis	Reese	Trow	Caradine	Powles	Davis
Watkins	Griffith	Morris	Owens	Smout	Tilley
Layton	Francis	George	Gravenor	Williams	Mason
Bufton	Lloyd	Jarman	Bubb	Deakin	Owens
Miles	Price	Watts	Evans	Kinsey	Meredith
Sheen				-	



See http://www.wngga.org/NAFOW/nafow\_hm.html for details.

# **Other Events**

- June 29 12:30 p.m. Albany Welsh Pioneer Families and Friends Reunion and Wisconsin Historical Site Dedication, Albany. Contact Cynthia Bagley (608) 676-4289 or cbagley@charter.net
- July 13-20 Cwrs Cymraeg (Welsh course), Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa. See www.madog.org/cyrsiau/
- July 20-27 Welsh Heritage Week (Welsh course), Villa Julie College, Stevenson, Maryland. See www.welshheritageweek.org
- Aug. 28-31North American Festival of Wales and National Gymanfa Ganu.<br/>See www.wngga.org/NAFOW/nafow\_hm.html

## **WISCONSIN 2008 GYMANFA GANU SCHEDULE**

"Deuwch, Canwn i'r Arglwydd"

"Come, Sing Unto the Lord"

### May 4 Wisconsin Dells

2:30 p.m. Annual State Gymanfa Ganu at United Presbyterian Church, 730 Cedar St., Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965. Session at 2:30 followed by te bach. Director: Rev. Joe Corbin. Organist: Steve Jensen. Contact: Danny Proud, 608-661-0776 or prouds@tds.net Directions: Take I-90/94 to Exit 87. Go east on Hwy 13 into Wisconsin Dells. Six blocks after crossing the river. turn right on Cedar St. The church is on the first block.

#### June 8 Rewey

2:30 p.m. Gymanfa Ganu at Carmel-Peniel Welsh Presbyterian Church, Peniel Road. Session at 2:30 followed by te bach. Director: Mr. Geraint Wilkes, Hartland. Pianist: Barbara Brown, Mt. Horeb. Contact: Jane Kemnitzer, 608-574-4352 Directions: Take Hwy 151 southwest past Mineral Point to Cty A. Go right (west) on A to Jones Branch Road. Turn left and proceed to Peniel Road. Turn right on Peniel. Chapel is about 1 mile.

#### July 20 *Redgranite*

2:30 p.m. Gymanfa Ganu at First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Hwy 21 and Bonnell Ave. in Redgranite. Session at 2:30 followed by te bach. Director: Mr. Trefor Williams, Milwaukee. Organist: Rev. Tom White, North Fond du Lac. Contact: Margery Williams, 920-787-0803. Church is fully accessible and air conditioned.

#### Aug. 26 Pickett

2:30 p.m. Gymanfa Ganu at Peniel Chapel. Session at 2:30 followed by te bach. Director: to be announced. Organist: Tom White. Pianist: Sarah Conrad. Contact: Rev. Tom White, 920-922-9424 or tjwhite65@sbcglobal.net. Directions: On Cty FF 1/2 mile west of Hwy 26, north of Rosendale.

#### Oct. 12 Cambria

- 2:30 and Gymanfa Ganu at Cambria Presbyterian Church, corner of Florence and
- 6:00 p.m. Towyn. Sessions at 2:30 and 6:00. Supper between sessions. Director: Mary Morris Mergenthal, St. Paul, Minnesota. Organist: Steve Jensen, Milwaukee. Contact: Tom Williams, 920-348-5746. Church is fully accessible.

#### Nov. 9 North Fond du Lac

2:30 p.m. Christmas Gymanfa Ganu at Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. Session at 2:30 followed by te bach. Director: Rev. Joe Corbin. Organist: Rev. Tom White. Pianist: Sarah Conrad. Contact: Rev. Tom White, 920-922-9424 or tjwhite65@sbcglobal.net. Church is fully accessible.

*Directions:* Hwy 41 to the Winnebago St. exit. Go east about 1 mile to Prospect Ave. and left one block.

Note: Events in italics are run independently from the WGGAW by the individual churches.