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Caernarfon, Gwynedd, Wales
Mrs. Nanette E. Wilde, President, Women's Welsh
Clubs of America, Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Ms. Carolyn J. Kearney, President, Welsh Asso-
ciated Youth, Shamokin, PA
Mr. Russell Williams, President, National Welsh
American Foundation, Nokomis, FL

Scholarship Committee Chairperson:

Ms. Myfanwy Davies, Ottawa, ON

Executive Director:

Dr. Ellis J. Jones, St. Peter, MN

MEMBERSHIP

The WNGGA Constitution states that "Any person with Welsh lineage or any person or organization in full sympathy with the stated purpose of the Association shall be eligible for membership" [Article 3. a)]. The dues are \$10 US for an Individual Annual Membership, \$150 US for an Individual Life Membership (payable in 3 five-year installments) or \$100 US for age 65 and older (payable in 2 yearly installments), and \$50 US for an Organization Life Membership.

A major benefit of membership is to be on the Membership Main Data Base for special mailings about upcoming Nationals plus the quarterly Hwyl (WNGGA's newsletter) and other special notices and messages. Only members are allowed to vote in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held during each National. At the AGM, the agenda includes reports, votes on proposed policies, and election of persons to the Board of Trustees.

A Registration for Membership form is attached to this flier. If you are not already a member, you are invited to fill it out and send it in an envelope addressed to the International Headquarters with your payment or credit card information. Further information about the WNGGA can be found on the WEB site or by contacting the International Headquarters.

By becoming a WNGGA member, you will have a feeling of belonging to a strong ethnic organization, thus, providing tangible support for the goals of the Association. You will be kept aware of happenings in the North American Welsh community and be in the company of others dedicated to the same goals.

Deuwch, Canwn I'r Arglwydd
(Come, Let Us Sing To The Lord)



FACTS ABOUT

THE WNGGA

The Welsh National
Gymnast Association, Inc.
(Founded in 1929)

WNGGA International Headquarters
Gustavus Adolphus College Box B47
[Redacted] College Avenue
St. Peter, MN 56082-1498

PHONE: [Redacted] 40
(Toll Free) [Redacted] 63
E-Mail: WNGGA@[Redacted]
FAX: [Redacted] 84
WEB SITE: [Redacted].org

2001-2002

The Welsh National Gymnafia Ganu Association, Inc. (WNGGA) was established in 1929 when over 1500 persons, primarily from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ontario, held a Gymnafia Ganu on Goat Island, Niagara Falls, New York, on Labor Day weekend.

The organization was officially incorporated in the state of Ohio in 1951. In 1961 the United States Internal Revenue Service classified it as a 501-c-3 organization.

OBJECTIVES

The basic objectives of the WNGGA as stated in the WNGGA Constitution Article 2 are:

To preserve, develop and promote our Welsh religious and cultural heritage, including but not limited to the Gymnafia Ganu, and our religious and cultural traditions, and to do all things necessary and proper to accomplish and enhance the same.

NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU

One of the major ways in which the Objectives are implemented is through the annual National Gymnafia Ganu. This is the premiere event for members of the WNGGA and all other persons who enjoy singing Welsh hymns.

The "National" is held on the four days before Labor Day. Over 1,000 persons annually attend and participate in seminars, a banquet, a grand concert, an eisteddfod (a competitive event), tours, and a Welsh-English church service.

The climax at each National is the Labor Day Sunday afternoon and evening singing sessions which are attended by over 1,000 persons each time. The participants sing 30-35 of the Welsh hymns in parts led by a conductor and accompanied by an organist and/or pianist and often a choir. Sites where the National Gymnafia Ganu have been held since the beginning are:

1929--Niagara Falls, NY; 1930--Niagara Falls, NY; 1931--Niagara Falls, NY; 1932--Niagara Falls, NY; 1933--Chicago, IL; 1934--Cleveland, OH; 1935--Youngstown, OH; 1936--Atlantic City, NJ; 1937--Johbstown, PA; 1938--Pittsburgh, PA; 1939--Buffalo, NY; 1940--Detroit, MI; 1941--New Castle, PA; 1942--

Utica, NY; 1943, 1944, 1945--No National was held; 1946--Akron, OH; 1947--Akron, OH; 1948--Detroit, MI; 1949--Salt Lake City, UT; 1950--Canton, OH; 1951--Milwaukee, WI; 1952--Columbus, OH; 1953--Rochester, NY; 1954--Philadelphia, PA; 1955--Salt Lake City, UT; 1956--Cleveland, OH; 1957--Washington, DC; 1958--Milwaukee, WI; 1959--Toronto, ON; 1960--San Francisco, CA; 1961--Chicago, IL; 1962--Utica, NY; 1963--Detroit, MI; 1964--Philadelphia, PA; 1965--Pittsburgh, PA; 1966--Los Angeles, CA; 1967--Toronto, ON; 1968--Buffalo, NY; 1969--Cardiff, Wales, and Cleveland, OH; 1970--Milwaukee, WI; 1971--Salt Lake City, UT; 1972--Chicago, IL; 1973--Toronto, ON; 1974--Swansea, Wales, and Cleveland, OH; 1975--New York, NY; 1976--Philadelphia, PA; 1977--Ottawa, ON; 1978--Minneapolis, MN; 1979--Niagara Falls, NY; 1980--Vancouver, BC; 1981--Utica, NY; 1982--Toronto, ON; 1983--Wilkes-Barre, PA; 1984--Portland, OR; 1985--Montreal, PQ; 1986--Columbus, OH; 1987--St. Paul, MN; 1988--Baltimore, MD; 1989--Pittsburgh, PA; 1990--Victoria, BC; 1991--Cincinnati, OH; 1992--Kansas City, MO; 1993--Wilkes-Barre, PA; 1994--Bellevue, WA; 1995--Harrisburg, PA; 1996--Utica, NY; 1997--Milwaukee, WI; 1998--Columbus, OH; 1999--Minneapolis, MN; 2000--Ottawa, ON; 2001--San Jose, CA.

Information about the National including an announcement flier and the official Information Registration flier is automatically sent from WNGGA Headquarters to WNGGA members as soon as it is available. The information about the Nationals is available on request from the International Headquarters and/or WNGGA/Venue Websites.

WNGGA PUBLICATIONS

The WNGGA has adopted an official hymnal for use at Gymnafia Ganu events. It is entitled Welsh and English Hymns and Anthems (Reformatted Edition). It contains 118 hymns and anthems in Welsh and in English. The hymnal is available in two sizes--6 by 9 (\$12 US each) and 8 1/2 by 11 (\$17 US each). Both sizes are spiral bound.

Songs of the Dragon (Caneun Y Ddraig) is the WNGGA's folk song book. It contains 55 folk songs in Welsh and in English plus 17 other songs. It is 8 1/2 by 11 (\$11 US each).

Phonetic Hymnal contains no music but does have the phonetic pronunciation for every word of every hymn and anthem in the official Hymnal. It is 6 by 9 and available as single copies (\$11 US) or in a set with the official hymnal (\$20 US). It is spiral bound to the flat and be held

next to the respective song in the Hymnal. This will be of much help in learning to sing the words in Welsh.

All of the publications are available from the International Headquarters.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

In 1983 the Board of Trustees established a scholarship program from which scholarships may be granted to applicants who are enrolled in courses or projects which preserve, develop and promote the Welsh religious and cultural heritage. The scholarships/grants are financed from the annual income of the WNGGA Scholarship Endowment Fund.

To be eligible for a scholarship an applicant must be: (a) of Welsh lineage, and (b) a citizen of the United States or Canada, and (c) a member of the WNGGA, or a full member of WAY (Welsh Associated Youth) or if under 13, an Associate Member of WAY. There is no age limitation.

Organizations may also apply for grants. To be eligible, the organization must be: (a) a non-profit organization in the United States or Canada, and (b) an Organization Life Member of WNGGA, and (c) the organization goals must be the same as the WNGGA--to preserve, develop and promote the Welsh religious and cultural heritage.

Information concerning the Scholarship/Grants Program can be secured from the International Headquarters.

GOVERNANCE

As specified by the WNGGA Constitution, the organization is governed by a Board of Trustees. Trustees are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting held during the National Gymnafia Ganu.

The trustees are elected to represent specific geographic areas in the North American continent: Canada, East United States and West United States (east or west of the Mississippi River). The Executive Committee is elected by the Board of Trustees every two years during the annual National Gymnafia Ganu. The entire Board of Trustees meets twice annually--on Labor Day weekend and in the spring during the Ontario (Canada) Gymnafia Ganu.

(Continued on reverse side)

The W N G G A

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc. (WNGGA) was established in 1929 when over 1500 persons primarily from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ontario, held a Gymanfa Ganu on Goat Island, Niagara Falls, New York, on Labor Day weekend.

In the following years, the WNGGA has held a National Gymanfa Ganu each year at locations in Canada or the United States except for World War II years 1943, 1944, and 1945 and in 1974 when it was in Swansea, Wales.

In the last decade the sites have been:

- 1990--Victoria, British Columbia
- 1991--Cincinnati, Ohio
- 1992--Kansas City, Missouri
- 1993--Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
- 1994--Bellevue, Washington
- 1995--Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- 1996--Utica, New York
- 1997--Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- 1998--Columbus, Ohio
- 1999--Minneapolis, Minnesota.

At each National (a four-day event) registrants from across Canada and the United States as well as Wales and other overseas locations have the opportunity to participate in seminars, a banquet, a grand concert, an eisteddfod (competitive choral event), tours, and a Welsh-English church service. The climax each year is the Labor Day Sunday afternoon and evening singing sessions which are attended by over 1,000 persons each time. The participants sing

30-35 of the Welsh hymns in parts led by a conductor and accompanied by an organist and/or pianist and often a choir. The hymns (which are sung in English and Welsh) are taken from the official Welsh and English hymnal available from the WNGGA International Headquarters. The National Gymanfa Ganu is North America's premiere event for all who love to sing Welsh hymns and anthems.

During the year members of the WNGGA receive detailed information about the plans for future nationals as well as newsletters and other special mailings as a benefit of their membership. Membership fees for the WNGGA are

- \$ 7US--individual annual
- \$30US--individual life
- \$50US--organizational life

To become a member, contact

WNGGA International Headquarters
Gustavus Adolphus College Box B47

[REDACTED] College Avenue

St. Peter, MN 56082-1498

(Phone: [REDACTED])

(FAX: [REDACTED])

(email: WNGGA-[REDACTED])

WHAT IS

THE

GYMANFA

GANU?

(Pronounced Gah-mahn-vah Gahn-ee)



The Welsh National
Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Assoc., Inc.
Come Let Us Sing To The Lord
Y DDRAIG GOCH

The Gymanfa Ganu*

by

Judge David G. Jenkins
(1879-1970)

It is not generally known, but a fact nonetheless, that part singing had its origin and early development among the Cymry, or as the English called them, the Welsh. A famous historian, Giraldus, writing in 1188, speaks of their skill in vocal music, which they sang in parts, and not, as elsewhere, in unison. This skill and custom, developed through the ages, finds its expression today in the Gymanfa Ganu, the Assembly or Festival for Sacred Song.

This institution, in its present form less than a century old, is expressive of the soul of the Cymry, or Welsh, since it gives an outlet for their deep and fervent religious feeling through the medium they love best, the music of human voices blended in harmony. It is, as it must be to be Welsh, a democratic institution, for persons in all positions in life take part in it. It is devoted to four-part singing of hymns and anthems, and has given the congregational singing of the Welsh people conceded first place among the nations.

The beginnings of the Gymanfa Ganu were humble, in the little chapels and churches

which in such numbers dot the hills and vales of Cambria. After the regular religious service was over the congregation would remain for an hour of song.

Unaccompanied by any instrument--for the Puritan spirit was never stronger in New England than in old Wales--led by a leader, innocent perhaps of musical degree, who sounded the pitch without even a tuning fork, the congregation would be drilled for the forthcoming Gymanfa. For months a few selected hymns and an anthem or two would be rehearsed; then in a common meeting place congregations of one neighborhood or denomination would unitedly render the selections so prepared, under a conductor specially qualified and chosen. To hear such an outpouring of balanced trained voices leaves an indelible memory.

Since the demands of part singing could not be met by hymns of simple character, meant to be and usually sung in unison, hymns were composed or adapted for this more harmonious phase of vocal music. Some of these composers, such as Ieuan Gwyllt, have produced tunes which, according to the greatest musicians, take rank among the masterpieces of the world. A number of them, rich in melody and harmony, are included in this book. [*Welsh and English Hymns and Anthems (Reformatted)*]

The Gymanfa Ganu has been an incentive and an inspiration to the best talents among

the Welsh composers, for to them there can be no greater glory or higher recognition than to have an accepted place in such an institution.

Music, like religion, speaks a universal language; and like it, too, it uplifts and benefits all it touches. To extend its beneficial influence through the medium which has made such a deep impression on Welsh life, the National Gymanfa Ganu has been formed as a permanent American institution, giving promise that in this, our beloved land, the devotional spirit of our Cymric forebears shall, through it, find even wider expression.

To the spirit of America gallant little Wales has contributed much. It is confidently believed that the Gymanfa Ganu is not least among these gifts.

*Reprinted from the frontispiece of *Welsh and English Hymns and Anthems (Reformatted)* published by The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.

