

# St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska Newsletter



Vol 21

September. 2009

<u>No.2</u>

#### 25th Annual Nebraska

# \*Welsh Hymn Sing

(Gymanfa Ganu)

# Sunday, October 18, 2009 - 2 p.m.

Northeast United Church of Christ 6200 Adams Street - Lincoln, Nebraska



# Geraint Wilkes Song Leader and Soloist

Native of Aberystwyth, North Wales

Special Vocal Music - - - - - Geraint Wilkes

Harpist - - - - - - - - Heidi Beran, Lincoln

Accompanist - - - - - - Diana Warner, Lincoln

Te bach (Welsh tea) to follow - Public is Invited

Sponsor: St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska

For more information, contact: Morgan Bevan, Sr., 5443 Locust St.; Lincoln, NE 68516 Tel. (402) 489-7208

www.mathiaslink.com/welsh

\*Most of the singing will be in English

Geraint Wilkes, conductor and tenor soloist from Milwaukee, will again lead us. He was born in Aberystwyth, North Wales, the child of professional singers. Wilkes has been singing since he was a little boy and has been active in church music. He received performing and teaching diplomas in Theater and Drama Studies from the University of Wales, a Bachelor of Music Degree with a major in Voice plus teaching diplomas in English and Welsh from Cardiff College.

**Geraint** has made guest appearances with the Welsh National Opera, has starred in many musicals, in films, on TV and Radio in Britain, and appearances in Austria. He was honored by singing in the presence of Prince Charles of Wales at Caernarvon Castle in 1969 and was awarded the Silver Medal by the Queen Mother for long service to the arts in Britain.

He came to live in the United States in 1990 and has made many professional appearances since arriving in this country. Many of these performances have been for Welsh, Irish and Scottish groups. He has directed Gymanfa Ganus in several states; and in 1997 he had the honor or directing the 66<sup>th</sup> National Gymanfa Ganu held in Milwaukee. In the summer, he leads tours to Wales. He is especially proud of his Welsh heritage. In addition to leading us in our hymn singing, he will sing solos.

**Heidi Beran** was first intrigued to the harp at age seven, while seeing it played at a wedding reception. She was able to begin lessons six months later – and the harp has offered her many opportunities. Her primary teachers have included Mary Bircher and the Omaha Symphony Orchestra and Kathleen Wychulis with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra. She was given the privilege to study with world-renown teacher Alice Chalifoux at the Salzedo Harp Colony in Camden, Maine. In 1999, she released the "Reflections of Christmas" solo recording.

She completed her Bachelor of Arts in Harp Performance at the University of NE at Lincoln in May, 2005. Over the years, she has had many performance opportunities including: UNL Symphony Orchestra, Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra, Hastings Symphony Orchestra, Lincoln's New Music Agency, the Brown Palace Hotel (Denver), and numerous other special events, wedding and receptions. She is currently a member of Duo Adante, a flute/harp duo with Betsy Bobenhouse, is Vice-President of the Great Plains Chapter of the American Harp Society, and has been teaching harp students for over 9 years. She has had many performance opportunities. Heidi resides in Lincoln, NE with her husband Jan Michael Beran and continues to freelance and teach.

**Diana H. Warner** has accompanied us at many of our St. David celebrations and Gymanfa Ganus. She is a native of Marion, Kansas and is a graduate of Wichita State University where she earned both Bachelor and Master of Music in Performance. She has studied with Gordon Terwilliger and Beth Miller Harrold.

Before coming to Lincoln in 1971, she served as organist and pianist at various churches. Her musical activities now include solo programs, recitals, and professional accompanying.

Diana traces her Welsh background to her paternal grandfather, Osmond Arthur Herbert, who was born on a ship in New York Harbor during his parents' immigration to Peabody, Kansas from their former home in a coal mining region of Wales.

**We will sing** the following hymns, the first lines of which are included:

1 56 115	"Rachie"(Onward Christian Soldiers)  "Llef""(Come, Gracious Lord))  "My Redeemer"(I Will Sing of my Redeemer)
29 27 106	"Deemster"(O Listen to our Wondrous Story) "Sandon"(Lead, Kindly Light) "Mawlgan"(Let Us Praise the Lord)
66 26 107	"Calon Lan"(I Seek Not Life's Ease and Pleasures) "Penpark"(Jesus I Live to Thee) "Côr Caersalem"(O! Wonderful the Music)

3	"Bryn Calfaria"(Take Me As I Am)
62	"I Need Thee" (I Need Thee Ev'ry Hour)
Χ	"Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau"(Land of my Fathers)
40	"Cwm Rhondda"(Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah)
117	"God Be With You"

## If you have a Welsh hymnal, please bring it.

The purpose of our Gymanfa Ganu is to preserve, develop, and promote our Welsh heritage.

Deuwch, Canwn I'r Arglewydd. (Come, Sing to the Lord!)

A **map** of Lincoln appears on the back page, and the location of the church is indicated. The church is

accessible for the handicapped

# IN MEMORIUM

## Mary A. Mumgaard



Mary Mumgaard, born Mary A. True on 2/18/25 to Mariam Davis True, passed away on Friday, July 10, 2009 at the age of 84. She spent her youth in Perry, IA with her mother and younger sister, working at the soda fountain and playing piano in the school orchestra. An eventful encounter on a train ride at the end of WWII led to a happy marriage of 56 years to Milo L. Mumgaard. They moved from Iowa to Beatrice, then to Huskerville, to Belmont and then to their special "Pinemont" acreage north of Lincoln.

Mary had a beautiful singing voice and music was central to her life. For many years she served as the organist at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. She was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Davey. Mary was involved in many volunteer organizations throughout her life, an avid reader and published author, loved her gardening and created her special "Grandma's Garden."

She is survived by her family of ten children, 24 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. They include: Daughters and sons-in-law Carol & Rex Thompson, Lake Lotawana, MO; Kathryn & Ralph Martin, Ashland; Nancy & Albert Pritchett, Lincoln; Sandra & David Wolfe, Lincoln; Deanna Mumgaard & Brian Lingenfelter, Lincoln; Mary Annette & Curtis Olson, Lincoln; Sons and daughters-in-law Jon & Sharon Mumgaard, Lincoln; Thomas & Maria Mumgaard, Papillion; James & Kathleen Mumgaard, Omaha; David Milo Mumgaard & Andrea Collins, Lincoln; sister, Barbara Dotson, Iowa City, Iowa; 24 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren 2 great-great grandchildren; nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by parents, husband Milo, one granddaughter.

#### ST. DAVID'S WELSH SOCIETY of NE LUNCHEON

#### March 29, 2009

What a beautiful site for our St. David's luncheon on March 29 – and how the music rang out! St. David's Episcopal Church, Lincoln, provided a lovely setting for us – presenting a delicious luncheon, prepared by members of the church and served by gentlemen . We thank all members who helped make this event possible.

And how the music rang out. Jon Peterson, Lincoln, was our gifted song leader with Diana Warner, Lincoln, accompanying. Jon shared several stories of his Welsh ancestors – and their joy for singing, story telling, and their wonderful family gatherings.

Chris Sayre, Lincoln, thrilled us with wonderful folk music of the many cultures in Nebraska - performing several songs emphasizing our Welsh heritage. How we enjoyed the many instruments he brought and played. We were all trying to absorb the intricate skills in playing not only the accordion, concertina, mandolin – but the "musical saw."

It was a wonderful afternoon and we thank all who attended!

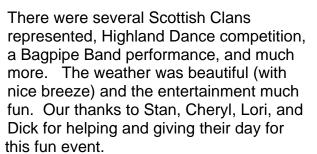
# MIDLANDS CELTIC FESTIVAL

Omaha, NE



Stan Owens, Joan Longacre and Cheryl Estes

St. David's Society Welsh Society was represented at the Midlands Celtic Festival on Sat., July 11, in Omaha. We shared tent/canopy space with Lori McAlister's Lincoln Irish Dancers. Stan Owens, Cheryl Estes, Dick Longacre, Lori McAlister (who was multitasking with St. David's Society and the Lincoln Irish dancers), and I had a table with our St. David's Welsh Society banner, Welsh flag, brochures, membership forms, shirts and Lori's wonderful Mari Lewd.





Cheryl Estes with the Mari Lewd



Lori McAlister (prepared for the L.I.D.'ers)



Lori McAlister, Joan Longacre and Stan Owens

# AN EVENING OF MUSIC

<u>Gaelic Storm</u>: Wed., February 17, 2010. Lied Center, Lincoln, NE. A decade ago, Gaelic Storm's career lifted off with their appearance in the blockbuster film *Titanic*. The band's fan base continues to multiply with each new album, turning the one-time pub band into one of the premier touring acts in the Celtic/World music genre. <a href="www.liedcenter.org">www.liedcenter.org</a>

# Ripley's - "Believe Jt or Not!"



"AQUA JRON MEN". On Jan. 10, 2009, 86 Scuba Divers dove to the Bottom of a Flooded Rock Quarry in Chepstow, Wales, to



www.ripleys.com

# ~ HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY ~ 1910-2010



# WE ARE CELEBRATING



In recognition of our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday – we have Sweatshirts and T-Shirts with the red, yellow and green St. David's Welsh Society of NE logo on the front.



The Market Place has in stock T-Shirts and Sweatshirts which will be on sale after the Gymanfa Ganu on Sunday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at the Te Bach.

Colors for the T-shirts are dark green and grey. Sizes are small, medium, large, XL and XXL. (Price - \$15.00 plus tax)

Colors for the Sweatshirts are dark green, yellow, tan and a few grey. Sizes are small, medium, large, XL, and XXL. (Price - \$20 - \$25, plus tax)

Hopefully, you will join with us in wearing and advertising the St. David's Welsh Society of NE's 100 years.

(To the individual who called to exchange a tan XL for a tan XXL, after the St. David's Luncheon in March, please contact Marjorie J. Bevan at 402-489-7208 so the exchange can be made.)



# UPCOMJNG EVENTS

Website: <u>St. David's Welsh Society of NE</u> or: www.mathiaslink.com/welsh

Oct. 18, '09 (Sun.)

25<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nebraska Gymanfa Ganu, Lincoln, NE; 2 p.m.; Northeast United Church of Christ, 6200 Adams St. Geraint Wilkes, conductor and soloist. Hartland, WI; Heidi Beran, Harpist, Lincoln; Diana Warner, Accompanist, Lincoln. Te Bach following. Contact: Morgan Bevan (402) 489-7208

Dec. 1. '09-Jan. 4, '10 <u>Stuhr</u> Museum, Grand Island, NE. "Fantasy of Trees." Check website for hours. www.stuhrmuseum.org/fantasytrees.htm.

Dec. 4. '09 (Fri.)

Durham Museum, Omaha, NE. "Ethnic Holiday Festival." 5-9 p.m.

Jan. 10, '10 (Sun.)	12th Night Revel, Lincoln, NE; 2 p.m.; St. David's Episcopal Church, 8800 Holdrege,
	Lincoln, NE. Te Bach following. Contact Lori McAlister. mcalister@windstream.net or
	(402) 742-0477 or Joan Longacre, <u>longacre@inetnebr.com</u> or (402) 486-2417.

Mar. 1, '10 (Mon.) <u>St. David's Day</u> -- Happy St. David's Day to you! (Dydd Gwyl Ddewi Hapus i chi!) Get together with your local Welsh friends for tea or coffee.

Mar. 7, '10 (Sun.) <u>Welsh Heritage Sunday</u>. Encourage your pastor to observe this Sunday by including one or more hymns that are of Welsh origin.

April 10, '10 (Sat.) <u>St. David's Luncheon and Program</u>, <u>Lincoln, NE</u>. St. David's Episcopal Church, 8800 Holdrege, Lincoln, NE 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. More information will be available.

July, '10 (Sat.) <u>Midland Celtic Festival</u>: Omaha, NE. Watch for more information – or check website: <u>midlandcelticfestival.com</u>

Aug. 8, '10 (Sun.)

Planning Meeting for St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska. Officers of the Society and all interested persons will meet at 2 p.m. at the home of Joan Longacre, 6325 O St., #511, Lincoln, NE. The purpose of the meeting will be planning for this year's Gymanfa Ganu on October 17, 2010. For information contact Morgan Bevan – (402) 489-7208.

And don't forget the 3rd Welsh Heritage Festival - Oct. 10-12, 2009, Wymore, NE website: <a href="http://www.welshheritage.org/">http://www.welshheritage.org/</a>

# GREAT PLAINS WELSH HERITAGE PROJECT

# Wymore, NC



"This is a picture of the Welsh Garden, a 55' by 125' park surrounded by an iron picket fence that would be right at home in Aberystwyth. You are looking to the North from the 80' mural, a tribute to Welsh immigration to the Plains of North America.," as shared on the Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project website.

In commemoration of our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2010, St. David's Welsh Society of NE has purchased two pavers for the walkway being built through the Welsh Garden.

Latest news....Mark the dates of <u>October 10-12</u>, 2009 for the **Third Annual Welsh Heritage Festival** in Wymore, NE. There will be Welsh dancing, live Welsh music, Sat. night concert,

Cemetery Crawl, Gymanfa Ganu, Welsh films, sing-along & solos, and the gift shop will be open and well stocked. Be sure to get your hotel reservation made. Should be a great event. Check the website for more information and copy of the registration form: **www.welshheritage.org** or send an e-mail to: **gpwhp@windstream.net.** 

# Owain Glyndwr

#### The Last Native Born Welshman to Bear the Title of

#### "Prince of Wales"

<u>A must see!!!</u> Parts 1 thru 8 uploads of a great BBC documentary about the hero the world needs to know more about. An intellectual, cultured, <u>last Welsh-born Prince of Wales</u> who reluctantly led his countrymen to war against England in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and came very close to achieving a remarkable transformation of his country. <u>On 16 September 1400, Owain Glyndwr was proclaimed Prince of Wales</u>.



If you have the Internet, go to Google (or which ever browser you use) enter: **Owain Glyndwr YouTube**. Click on "**Legend of Owain Glyndwr, part 1 of 8.**" This is well worth your time watching each of the 8 parts!

(Thanks to Carwyn Lloyd Edwards, Chandler, AZ; Welsh League of AZ. www.welshleagueofarizona)

# Roundhouses

#### Wales is Rich in Celtic heritage.

Not only do we have the remains of over 600 Celtic hillforts (type of fortified or defended settlement, typical of the Bronze and Iron Ages), but there are also exciting areas where you can discover more about the Iron Age.

Iron Age Celts lived in houses – but they were very different to the houses we live in today! Large families lived in a roundhouse. The walls were made of daub (straw, mud, and tail) and the roof of straw.



**Reconstructed Round House** 



This is a reconstructed Iron Age roundhouse, built on a hillfort site in Castell Henllys, Pembrokshire. Traces of round huts are found at Bryniau Poethion (North Wales) and Hafnant. At Pen y Dinas, hidden in the dense undergrowth are a larger number of stone circles, and the defensive slopes of an ancient British hillfort. There are also many – yet to be explained – mounds, hollows, bumps, and stones which indicate that man had long been on Llandudno's Mountain.

Iron Age people would have chosen where they lived for different reasons. The chieftain and his family, soldiers and craftsmen, lived in a hillfort because they were easy to defend.

There are over 1000 Iron Age hillforts in Wales. Steep slopes, a high wall and deep ditch helped keep the Celts safe in their homes.

Farmers lived on the land they farmed. Sometimes farms would be built in spots with a good source of water, or fertile ground of good pasture for the animals. The Celts grew corn and kept cows, pigs, horses, goats and sheep.

The hillforts <u>didn't</u> keep the Romans out though and the Celtic tribes were conquered when the Romans invaded in AD43.

(Story from BBC News 1 April 2007 – Northwest Wales; & www.bbc.co.uk/wales/celts/whereinwales)

# <u>Calendar of Upcoming Events – 2009-2010</u>

**<u>25<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nebraska Gymanfa Ganu, Lincoln, NE</u>**; 2 p.m.; Northeast United Church of Christ, 6200 Adams St. Geraint Wilkes, conductor and soloist. Hartland, WI; Heidi

## Coming Welsh Events in Nebraska:

Oct. 18, '09 (Sun.)

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	Contact: Morgan Bevan (402) 489-7208
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Mar. 1, '10 (Mon.) St. David's Day - - Happy St. David's Day to you! (Dydd Gwyl Ddewi Hapus i chi!)
Get together with your local Welsh friends for tea or coffee.

Mar. 7, '10 (Sun.) <u>Welsh Heritage Sunday</u>. Encourage your pastor to observe this Sunday by including one or more hymns that use a Welsh hymn tune.

Mar. 17, '10 (Wed.) St. Patrick's Day (the Welsh missionary who became patron saint of Ireland)

Apr, 10, '10 (Sat.) <u>St. David's Luncheon and Program</u>, <u>Lincoln, NE</u>. St. David's Episcopal Church, 8800 Holdrege, Lincoln, NE 10 am – 3 p.m.

July, '10 (Sat.) *Midland Celtic Festival*; Omaha, NE. Watch for more information – or check website: midlandcelticfestival.com

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Wymore, NE

Oct. 10-12, -09 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Welsh Heritage Festival. Wymore, NE. (See more information in

Newsletter.) Contact Berwyn Jones, www.welshheritage.org or

grwhp@windstream.net.

#### Welsh Events in Other Areas:

There are many activities planned for the following Welsh Societies. Please contact them for their events:

<u>Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project</u> – Berwyn Jones - <u>www.welshheritage.org</u> <u>Iowa Welsh Society</u> – Patricia McCaughey, President -e-mail:

mccaugheyj@q.com or Ada Mae Lewis, lewis@isunet.net;

St. David's Welsh Society of Greater Kansas City – Judith Brougham, President, pres@Welshkc.org;

St. David's Society of the State of Kansas, - Paula Evans (620) 256-6687;

St. David's Society of MN - Judith Evans Warner, President, (763) 522-1612;

Colorado Welsh Society - Sam Kuntz, President - coloradowelshsociety.org

**Sept. 2-5, 2010 2010 North American Festival of Wales**; Portland, Oregon. Check the website for (Thurs-Sun) additional information: North American Festival of Wales or e-mail: <a href="https://www.wngga.org">www.wngga.org</a>

# North American Welsh Newspapers

Subscribe to and read the North American Welsh newspaper, "Ninnau." There is news of Wales, news of Welsh North Americans, news of Welsh events in the United States, Welsh recipes, genealogical information – and much more.

Yearly subscriptions, \$20.00, published every two months. Send to: "Ninnau" (now incorporating "Y Drych"); 11 Post Terrace; Basking Ridge, NJ 07920-2498.

E-mail: ninnaupubl@cs.com

# Organizations Furthering Our Welsh Heritage

Welsh-American Genealogical Society (WAGS) - 60 Norton Ave.; Poultney, VT 05764-1029. Website:

http://www.rootsweb.com/~vtwags e-mail: wagsoff1990@yahoo.com

Wales Tourist Board - Website: www.visitwales.com

National Welsh American Foundation (NNAF) - 143 Sunny Hillside Road; Benton, PA 17814-7822;

T: 1-570-925-6923; Fax: 1-570-925-6735; Website: <u>www.wales-usa.org</u> & <u>www.wales-cymru.org</u>;

e-mail: **NWAF@epix.net** 

Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association; % Dr. John Ellis; PO Box 215, Hartland, MI 48353-0215

Website: www.wngga.org E-mail: wngga@comcast.net

<u>Cymdeithas Madog</u> – Residential language courses focusing on modern spoken Welsh. Website: <u>www.madog.org</u>.

E-mail: president@madog.org

#### **Selling Welsh Products**

The Harp and Dragon; 25 Madison St.; Cortland, NY 13045 (607) 756-7372. 10-10 daily; fax (607) 756-0366; e-mail <a href="mailto:harpdrag@HarpAndDragon.com">harpdrag@HarpAndDragon.com</a>. Anne Habermehl, proprietor. See online catalog at web site: <a href="https://www.harpanddragon.com">www.harpanddragon.com</a>.

Hiraeth Celtic Goods; 77 Cranberry Drive; Duxbury, MA 02332; (781) 585-6592; 10am - 6pm EST, Monday – Friday; See online catalog at website: <a href="www.hiraethcelticgoods.com">www.hiraethcelticgoods.com</a>. Place orders: <a href="mailto:orders@hiraethcelticgoods.com">orders@hiraethcelticgoods.com</a>

## **Request for News Items for Next Newsletter**

The deadline for items for the next newsletter is <u>January 16, 2010</u>. Please send to: Joan Longacre; 6325 "O" St., #511; Lincoln, NE 68510; (402) 486-2417; e-mail: <u>longacre@inetnebr.com</u> or Marjorie Bevan; 5443 Locust St.; Lincoln, NE 68516; (402) 489-7208.

## UPDATING YOUR ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER/E-MAIL ADDRESS

Please notify Stan Owens, Treasurer, if you have either a new address/telephone number/e-mail

#### POLICY STATEMENT

At our St. David's Day Observances, or any other event sponsored by the St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska, our intent and purpose is to honor our Welsh heritage.

The Society welcomes greetings and /or announcements from related organizations but strongly recommends that any such additional input be planned ahead and coordinated with/communicated to the President of this Society so that it may be added to the program or agenda of the meeting. Such input shall be limited to 2 minutes or a short written equivalent.

Further, all monetary collections or donations accruing from these meetings shall be for the benefit of the St. David's Welsh Society of Nebraska.

#### Society Officers and Newsletter Editors

President: Morgan Bevan, Sr.; 5443 Locust St.; Lincoln, NE 68516: 402-489-7208; mbevan@neb.rr.com V. President: Joan Longacre, 6325 O St., #511; Lincoln, NE 68510; 402-486-2417; longacre@inetnebr.com Secretary: Leah Bjerrum, P.O. Box 303; Utica, NE 68456; 402-534-3432; rb12437@windstream.net

Treasurer: Stanley Owens; 11027 Washington St.; Omaha, NE 68137; 402-339-4929;

Sowens77@peoplepc.com

Historian: Marjorie Bevan; 5443 Locust St.; Lincoln, NE 68516; 402-489-7208; mbevan@neb.rr.com News. Editors: Joan Longacre; 6325 O St., #511; Lincoln, NE 68510; 402-486-2417; longacre@inetnebr.com and Marjorie Bevan; 5443 Locust St.; Lincoln, NE 68516; 402-489-7208; mbevan@neb.rr.com