

# St David's Welsh Society of Nebraska

Number 1, Volume 26

Spring 2014

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THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED AT THE

## ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

IN CELEBRATION OF ST. DAVID OF WALES

**Saturday, March 22, 2014**

First Evangelical Covenant Church  
6024 L. Street – Lincoln, NE 68510  
[enter by north door - all on one level]

**10 am – tea and marketplace**

**11 am – annual meeting and election**

**Noon – luncheon**

**1 pm - program**

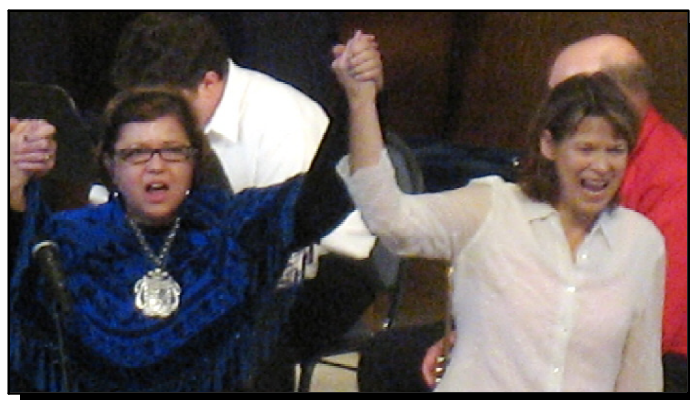
### Musical Guests

Gwenith Closs Colgrove  
Sue Owens Headrick

St. David (Dewi Sant) is the patron saint of Wales. His feast day is March 1, but it has been the practice of our society to schedule our celebration later in the month to avoid spring snows. Very little is actually known about David, but folklore abounds. Tradition has it that he died in 589, aged over 100.

"St. David who was of royal extraction, and uncle to King Arthur, died, aged 146 years, on March 1st, still celebrated by the Welsh, perchance to perpetuate the memory of his abstinence, whose contended mind made many a favorite meal on such roots of the earth." -- The Episcopal Almanac, 1677

Photos by Stephen McAlister



Gwenith Closs Colgrove & Sue Owens Headrick  
St. David's Centennial 2010

**Please Plan to Participate!**

**Gymanfa Ganu  
(Hymn Sing)  
September  
(date TBA)**

**All Hallows  
Noson Lawen  
(Merry Evening)  
Sun, Oct 26**

### Menu

Leek and Potato Soup  
Welsh Rarebit  
Fresh Fruit  
Welsh Tea Cakes  
Tea/Coffee/Water/Lemonade

**Meal - \$16 per plate**

**RSVP Deadline: March 17**

(response form enclosed)

## Annual North American Festival of Wales

The 2014 North American Festival of Wales will take place in Minneapolis, Minnesota, August 28 - 31. Highlights include an opening concert by Tramor, a performance by 2013 National Eisteddfod winner Joshua Owen Mills and the Grand Concert featuring the renowned Welsh group, Only Men Aloud. Seminars will be given on a variety of Welsh topics and we are excited to include Dafydd Wigley and Elinor Bennett among this year's presenters.

Registration is now open and additional information can be found online at [www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org). To request paper forms, please contact Megan Williams  
P.O. Box 1054  
Trumansburg, NY 14886  
phone 607-279-7402  
email [IHQ@thewnaa.org](mailto:IHQ@thewnaa.org)



### Chartered Bus to NAFOW

There is interest in a bus from Iowa and southern Minnesota to Minneapolis for the Welsh North American Association's Festival of Wales in August. People from the surrounding area are welcome to come to Iowa or Southern MN to meet the bus and ride along!

The most likely "bus stop" for Nebraskans would be the Des Moines, Iowa area.

The bus would begin the trip Wednesday, August 27 and return September 1. This would give festival attendees the day Thursday to volunteer at the NAFOW or visit the area on your own prior to the opening ceremony.

Organizers need to know if there is enough interest to proceed with plans for a bus. The cost will be determined by the number of people riding, but the estimate is \$150 - \$200.

**If you are interested, please email [bus@nafow.org](mailto:bus@nafow.org) by April 1!** If you do not use email, please phone Lori McAlister 402-742-0477.

### Car Pool from Lincoln/Omaha to NAFOW

An alternative to the bus for Nebraska residents interested in sharing a ride and/or a hotel room. Double, triple and quad rooms at The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Minneapolis run \$119 + tax (festival rate). Riders can share fuel costs.

Please contact Lori McAlister 402-742-0477 or [mcalisters@windstream.net](mailto:mcalisters@windstream.net)

### 20 Years Ago...

8 Nebraskans attended the National Cymanfa Ganu in Bellevue, Washington in 1994.



Left to right  
Back row: Gregory Reid, Jerry McInnis and Orvid Owens.  
Front row: Jean Reid, Rosalind Morris, Jolene McInnis, Mary Lou Pritchard and Jean Owens.



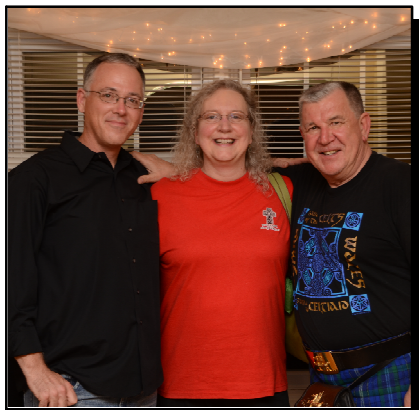
Wednesday, 3 September 2014

Welsh Rarebit Day

Famous all over Europe, Welsh Rarebit is a distant cousin to cheese on toast, made with a cheese and ale sauce, and Welsh Rarebit Day celebrates this famous dish. Nobody's quite sure of the origin of the name, but it's generally believed to be a jest at the expense of the early poor of Wales, who may largely have subsisted on rabbit and ale (though how this relates back to cheese on toast, we're not sure).



John Good and John Piggott -- Tramor -- playing for our spring luncheon 2013 (above) with Lori McAlister at Deer Springs Winery (below)



Photos by Stephen McAlister



# In Memorium

## Mary Jane (Jones) Knoche

Mary Jane (Jones) Knoche, 80, of Lincoln, formerly Beatrice, passed away July 6, 2013. Born June 10, 1933 in Beatrice to Merle and Jennie (Noyce) Jones. Married Everett Knoche June 29, 1952. Employed as a pharmacy tech at Beatrice Community Hospital, and assistant executive director of Beatrice Community Hospital Foundation. Member of First Plymouth United Church of Christ, Lincoln; past member of First Presbyterian Church, Beatrice and Wymore Church of Christ. Survivors: sons, Everett E. (Peggy) Knoche of Lincoln, Jeffrey Alan (Cynthia) Knoche of Lakewood, Calif., and David Grant (Kay) Knoche of Bowling Green, Ky.; five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; brother, John (Ruth) Jones of Wymore; sister, Barbara (Bill) Marten of Madison, Wis.; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Keith & Donna Knoche of Beatrice, Joe Knoche of Bakersfield, Calif., and Carolyn & Larry Baker of Alexandria, Va. She was preceded in death by her husband, Everett (2006); parents, Merle and Jennie (Noyce) Jones.

Memorial service was: 10:30 am Wednesday, July 10, at Griffiths-Hovendick Chapel, Beatrice with Jon Palmquist officiating. Private burial: Evergreen Home Cemetery, Beatrice. No public viewing. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Beatrice Public Library.



## Mark Franklin Gardner

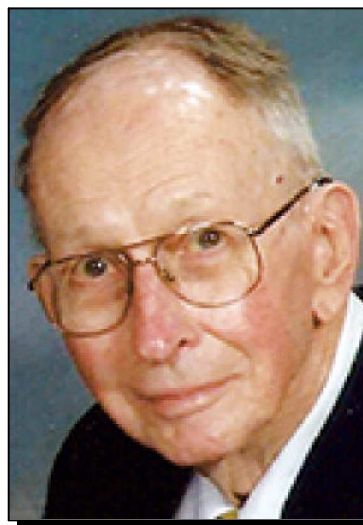
Mark Franklin Gardner, 93, died Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2013. He was born in Harvard to Harry and Florence Weaver Gardner on Sept. 4, 1920. While in high school he worked as the projectionist at the Harvard Theatre. He graduated from Harvard High School in 1939 and entered the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. He served as organist at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

In World War II he was commissioned a 2nd Lt. at Fort Belvoir, Va. on May 3, 1943 and assigned to the cadre of the 163rd Engineer Combat Battalion. Mark was adjutant of the Battalion and was awarded the Bronze Star. In January of 1944 he and two others were sent to the European Theatre and landed in Grenoch, Scotland. They prepared for the arrival in March 1944 of the rest of the Battalion which landed at Swansea, Wales. They lived in a field near Chipping Norton, England until entering France June 21, 1944 at Utah Beach. The Battalion removed land mines, repaired roads, and built 40 bridges. They were in Austria on V-E Day May 8, 1945. He served in the Army Occupation with the 335th and 365th General Service Regiment and helped build a hospital in Bremerhaven, Germany. He returned to the United States in February 1946.

He continued his studies at the University of Nebraska and graduated June 7, 1948 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He also attended Toledo University and the University of Michigan. Mark and Mildred Mary Pogue of Gresham were married in the chapel of St. Paul's Methodist Church on June 7, 1948 and moved to Toledo, Ohio where he was an engineer with Toledo Edison Company. In August 1952 they moved to Sioux City, Iowa where he worked for Iowa Public Service Company. He held various offices including executive vice president. Mark remained in the U.S. Army Reserve and

retired as Lt. Colonel in 1980.

While in Sioux City he served on various boards and as president of organizations. He was on the building committees of Grace United Methodist Church and chairman of the organ committee. He



served on the boards of the United Way, Salvation Army, Morningside College, Boy Scouts of America, St. Luke's Hospital and was precinct committeeman. In 1985 the Gardners moved to Lincoln. He was a member of the American Guild of Organists, American Legion, ROA, Volkspoint Club, Garden Club of Lincoln, 40th and A Neighborhood Association and delivered Meals on Wheels. He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mildred Gardner; his daughter, Margaret Berentson and her husband, Rod of North Platte; his son, Dr. John Gardner of Terre Haute, Ind.; grandson, Adam Ziegler of Elkhorn; and granddaughters, Sarah and Amy Ziegler of North Platte. He was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother, Paul C. Gardner.

Burial with military services will be 10:30 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 25, at Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Gresham. Memorial services will be at 1:30 p.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, 4530 A Street in Lincoln. Memorials may be made to Christ United Methodist Church or the Salvation Army.

"We do not need to grieve for the dead. Why should we grieve for them? They are now in a place where there is no more shadow, darkness, loneliness, isolation, or pain. They are home."

-- John O'Donohue, *Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom*

# Additional Resources



## Lori Mc's Celtic List



Free email notices of Welsh, Irish, Scots, and Pan-Celtic events in the area.

Contact Lori McAlister and provide an email address to sign up!  
402-742-0477 or  
lorimc.celtichome@gmail.com  
Also follow on Facebook.

## Great Plains Welsh Heritage Centre

Museum, archive and one-room schoolhouse display Welsh history and influence throughout the region. Located in Wymore, Nebraska

[www.welshheritage.org](http://www.welshheritage.org)  
[gpwhp@windstream.net](mailto:gpwhp@windstream.net)  
402-645-3186

## Ninnau Publication

The oldest remaining print publication dedicated to the tradition of international Welsh news in English & Cymriag.

[www.ninnau.com](http://www.ninnau.com)  
The North American  
Welsh Newspaper(R)

## North American Festival of Wales



The Welsh North American Association strives to preserve, develop and promote our Welsh cultural heritage and traditions.

[www.nafow.org](http://www.nafow.org)

## Event:

### Celtic Spirituality Workshop with Rev. Dr. John Philip Newell

**Saturday, March 29**

10 am to 12 noon - Free of Charge  
An introduction to Celtic Spirituality and Celtic Christianity from the foremost contemporary scholar on the subject

Based on Dr. Newell's "The Book of Creation," which will be available for purchase at the event.

First United Methodist Church  
at 50th and St. Paul Avenue  
Lincoln

The daffodil is the national flower of Wales, and is worn on St David's Day each 1 March. (In Welsh, the daffodil is known as "Peter's Leek", cenhinen Bedr/Cenin pedr.)

"The daffodils love that early period when spring is more promise than fact and for that reason, return color and growth to our gardens a whole month earlier than would otherwise be possible over most of the temperate zone... So why stand in boredom peering out of a half-frosted window pane at the retreating snow and hoping for warmer weather? Put on your galoshes and come see the daffodils..." Carey E. Quinn 1959

