

*The Welsh Society of Central Ohio—Cymdeithas Gymreig Canolbarth Ohio
Promoting a Strong and Vibrant Welsh Community in Central Ohio*

WSCO's 75TH ANNUAL CYMANFA GANU

By WSCO President Eve Goodwyn

Upon entering the sanctuary of Central College Presbyterian in Westerville on Sunday, October 15, 2023, attendees were treated to well-known gymanfa conductor, Jay Williams, of Clinton, NY, whose enthusiasm and high energy was 'catching' as he led us in Welsh hymns at our 75th anniversary gymanfa!

Another special addition was harpist, Kirk Kupensky, of Masury, OH, whose ethereal Welsh harp music set a lyrical tone.

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St. David's Day WSCO Luncheon and Annual Meeting February 24th

By WSCO President Eve Goodwyn

Come one; come all members!

Join us, and bring guests, on Saturday, February 24, 2024, for a seminar on Welsh lovespoons, WSCO's annual meeting, & buffet luncheon!

Check-in begins at 9:30 AM.

The seminar begins at 10:00 AM

Featured seminar speaker: Laura Jenkins Gorun

Laura Jenkins Gorun graduated from Capital University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, then worked in financial services for a couple decades, mostly as an IT project manager, until discovering the Welsh Lovespoon tradition led her to give up that career, and return to the arts.

Captivated by this lovely tradition, she taught herself to carve, developed her own very distinct and delicate style, and became quite renowned as a lovespoon carver.

She's had several collaborations with world-famous, lovespoon carver, David Western, and has been featured in multiple publications, including David Western's "History of Lovespoons."

Though some injuries have slowed down her carving in recent years, she still loves to speak about this lovely tradition and its history.

She's delighted to be giving a talk at WSCO's St David's Day celebration, where she'll explain a bit of the history, talk a little about the carving process, and offer some insights into the romantic symbolism often used to distinguish this cherished, centuries-old Welsh tradition.

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MEETING

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Venue: Scioto Country Club

2196 Riverside Drive
Columbus, OH 43221

Registration Details

Cost per person for the entire event:
\$37

Fill out the registration form and
send with payment to:

WSCO
PO Box 16851
Columbus, OH 43216-9532,

OR

Register & pay online at:
www.welshsocietyofcentralohio.org

DEADLINE for receipt of mail-in or
online registration/payment is
February 10, 2024.

Buffet luncheon includes:

- Rolls
- Welsh creamy leek & potato soup
- Chicken cordon bleu
- Club salad w/dried cherries, tomato wedges, onion, & pecans and honey cider vinaigrette, blue cheese crumbles on the side
- Sliced pineapple, assorted melon, grapes, & seasonal berries
- Haricot verts
- Wild and regular rice mix
- Assorted desserts
- Beverages: regular/decaf coffee, hot or iced tea, water

Scioto Country Club's Policies

Cell Phones

- The audible use of cell phones is NOT permitted in any areas of the Clubhouse except for the phone booth in the main Banquet entrance hallway.

Dress Code

- Men: sport coats or sweaters with a collared shirt and properly fitted slacks
- Women: dresses or skirts, pantsuits, dress slacks with appropriate tops
- NO denim is permitted in the Banquet areas at any time.

WSCO Board Meetings

Board meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for July, August and December, from 7pm to 9pm and usually take place by phone conference.

Meetings are open to all adult WSCO members. Anyone wishing to put an item on the agenda or speak before the Board should contact the President at least one week in advance of the meeting

Current WSCO Board Members

Cathy Beacom, Gene Beard, Marty Cottrill, Ken Evans, Eve Goodwyn, Shawn Hitchings, Tegwyn Lantz, Mary Ellen Morgan, Bob Penry, Anne Powell Riley, Mike Schroeder, Laura Thomas, Kyle Wright, Dianne Williams, Homer Williams

WSCO Officers

Eve Goodwyn, President
Tegwyn Lantz, Treasurer
Laura Thomas, Recording Secretary

WSCO Contact Information

PO Box 16851
Columbus, OH 43216-9532

Phone: (614) 500-7998

Email: info@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org

Web: <http://www.welshsocietyofcentralohio.org>

Facebook: Welsh Society of Central Ohio

Dragon Tales

The newsletter of the Welsh Society of Central Ohio is published three times a year, about 3-4 weeks before each of our annual events.

Editors – Kelsey Wright & Kyle Wright

Submissions

Submissions for Dragon Tales can be made to: newsletter@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org.

Please include your name, phone number, and email address; or leave a message at 614-500-7998 and include your name and phone number.

Submissions must be received by Board Meetings in January, June, and September to appear in the next issue.

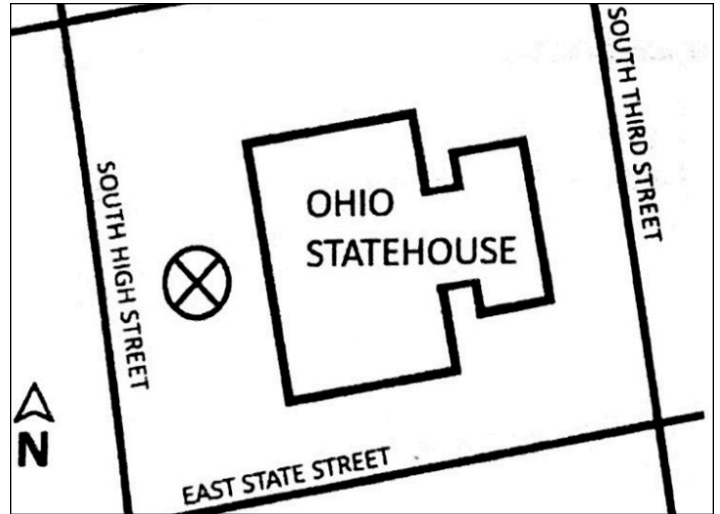
WSCO's 2024 Statehouse Flag Raising

By Ken Evans

February 23, 2024 Ohio Statehouse, West Plaza (High St.); Capital Square, southeast corner Broad and High Streets; downtown Columbus, Ohio. If the weather is bad, we will meet just inside the South doors of the Statehouse and proceed to the West Plaza; otherwise join us at the West Plaza just before noon.

Along with the raising of the Welsh flag over downtown Columbus is a short ceremony which includes the singing of the Welsh and U.S. national anthems.

Take advantage of already being at the Statehouse and enjoy a tour. Regular tours are given every hour, 10am to 3pm, weekdays. Meet in the Map Room near the Third St. entrance. More information can be obtained by calling 614-728-2695 or visiting www.statehouse.state.oh.us. Interested in touring the Supreme Court of Ohio? Call 614-387-9223 to schedule a tour. It is located at 65 South Front St.



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Organist Jim Hildreth, in his 23rd year as organist for us, was majestic in

his playing of the hymn sets, as well as prelude, offertory, and postlude selections.

The te bach afterwards featured quite a spread from small sandwiches to Welsh tea cakes, miniature pastries, and shortbread, as well as our

traditional punch. Te bach guests were also treated to more playing of Welsh harp music by 'harper Kirk'. It was an event that will be remembered fondly for years to come!

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MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Basic WSCO Membership Information

Membership Benefits include:

- Subscription to WSCO's newsletter Dragon Tales
- A vote at the Annual Meeting (except children under 16)
- Advance notice of WSCO Events
- Membership roster
- Great new friends!

WSCO General members are also welcome to silently observe WSCO Board Meetings.

Note - to present an item for discussion at a Board meeting, arrangements must be made in advance with the current President.

Annual Memberships (membership period Jan 1-Dec 31)

\$25 for an Individual or Family Unit (parental unit and dependent children), due by January 1st of each year.

Annual memberships begin the day they are received by WSCO (if received between January 1st and September 20th), or those received September 21st through December 31st will be applied to the next membership year and will begin on January 1st of that next year.

Please note - memberships not current as of January 31st may not be included in the annual member roster, and membership must be current to vote during the Annual Meeting.

Lifetime Memberships (begin on date received)

\$175 for an Individual or a Family Unit or three annual installments of \$75 each.

Or, \$30 one time for each individual over 80 years old.

Membership Application

Current WSCO Membership Application and other information is available on the Membership page on WSCO's website, and questions can be emailed to info@WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio.org, or call (614)500-7998.

Membership Chair – Shawn Hitchings

Welcome to New Members

WSCO sends a big Croeso! (Welcome!) to all our new members!

Members can find the WSCO Constitution on the website at:

www.WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio.org.

Members without access to Internet can request to have a copy mailed by leaving a message at WSCO's Information Line: (614)500-7998

Fond Farewells

P. William "Bill" Miller

Bill passed away on September 17th 2023. He was born November 12, 1932 to the late John and Mary Miller. He was preceded in death by his sister, Betty Stilton (Duart Stilton); his brother John Miller (Betty Miller); his sister Ruth Prichard (Bill Prichard); and his sister Gail Shaw.

He leaves behind his brother-in-law Don Shaw and many nieces and nephews. Bill is survived by his beloved wife of sixty-five years Geraldine (Jerry) Miller; daughter Lisa Wood (Bill Wood); son Matthew Miller (Angel Vercruyse) and Bill's only and much loved grandson Lincoln Miller. Bill also leaves behind brother-in-law H. G. Miller (Carol) parents of Kelli.

Bill had many cherished in-laws precede him: Father and Mother-in Law Edmund and Myrtle MacCartey, sister-in-law Margaret Rader and her daughter Sharon Rader; brother-in-law and wife Ed and Pat MacCartey and baby Pam; niece Kelli MacCartey.

Bill was a graduate of Oak Hill High School, the Mighty Oaks, class of 1951. He graduated from The Ohio State University, School of Business, in 1958. Bill graduated from Capital Law School in 1970.

At OSU Bill was in the Naval ROTC program and served as an officer in the Marines for three years at Camp Lejeune. Yes, he did drink the water!

Bill was employed by Gates McDonald and Co. for many years where he developed wonderful and lasting friendships. The Villa Nova group is still getting together.

After graduating from Capital Law School Bill worked for Thomas Morgan and Associates and Barkin and Barkin. He stayed friends with many of his co-workers at both firms.

Bill played basketball and football at Oak Hill High School and even tried out for the football team at OSU. The only thing "Woody" ever said to Bill was "Hey you! Get over here and hold this tackling block."

Bill loved "The Arts". He won the OSU Strollers Oscar Award in 1953-54.

Bill dabbled in book writing and short stories and gags which he shared with family and friends. Bill became very

interested in genealogy. Bill was especially proud of his Welsh heritage. He collected volumes of info and often intertwined this with his stories.

Bill started water-color painting under the guidance of Leland McClelland and Brenda Mason.

Bill's real passion was singing, both in the choirs at Reynoldsburg United Methodist and Church of the Redeemer in Reynoldsburg. He cherished the friends he had in both choirs. Bill found the words for a song called "The Lost Chord". Choir director Kathy Vansant found the music and accompanied Bill singing the song on July 9th this year at Redeemer.

The last verse of the song is as follows: "It may be that Death's bright angel will speak in that chord again. It may be that only in Heav'n I shall hear that grand Amen."

Bill sang with the Singing Buckeyes Chorus and some really fun quartets. He sang and directed Newark's Land of Legends chorus. Some early friendships developed from the "Big Church's" Doubles Club. Bill was still trying to meet with the New Year Eve group. These people became very special to Bill. He carried printed cards saying "I'm gonna sing 'til I die. It's the only way to live." Bill did a little singing at the New Albany Rehab Center two days before his passing.

Bill and Jerry had many wonderful trips and adventures. He loved the singing adventures with JABS.

Bill was a "giver". He enjoyed volunteering at Mt. Carmel East (Emergency) and in Oregon for the Red Cross Blood Center. Bill tutored at Old Orchard School in Columbus and his grandson's school in Oregon. He was a "big time" blood donor. His age and health ended his run at 43 gallons. Bill liked to say "I didn't give it all at the same time." He is now the ultimate giver: Bill's body is at OSU Medical Center helping some young doctors-to-be learn how to save a life. A memorial service will be held at OSU in August 2024 where Bill will be honored along with all the other ultimate givers who donate their body to the Body Donation Program this year.

Miscellaneous

Welsh Placename Pronunciations

Have you ever wondered if you are pronouncing the name of a town in Wales correctly? Use this website to hear how the locals pronounce several Welsh town names.

<https://www.mapiau.cymru/mapiau/MapLlais/index.html>

Welsh Food Spotted Around Town

There have been numerous sightings of Welsh-style food around Columbus.

Member Tegwyn Lantz spotted Welsh Lady Lemon Curd at World Market, Snowdonia Cheese at Trader Joe's. Keep your eyes open as you're shopping for some tasty Welsh treats.



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All photos in this article credit Laura Thomas

