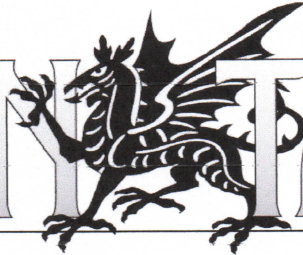


July-September 2016

DRAGON TALES



The Welsh Society of Central Ohio

Cymdeithas Gymreig Canolbarth Ohio

Promoting a Strong and Vibrant Welsh Community in Central Ohio

WSCO Celebrates St. David's Day 2016

2016 Annual Potluck Picnic



Sat., July 16th

4pm-8pm

Blendon Woods Metro Park

Dogwood Shelter

Bring your table setting, beverage and a dish to share.

Questions? Contact WSCO via email
info@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org
or voicemail (614) 500-7998.

Directions

Blendon Woods Metro Park is located
Westerville at 4265 E. Dublin-Granville Rd.
just east of Cherry Bottom Road.

From I-270, take State Route 161 exit toward New Albany onto E. Dublin-Granville Road. Go 1.6 miles then take the Little Turtle Way exit and turn right. Turn right on Old State Route 161. Park entrance is 1/2 mile on left, OR approach traveling North on Cherry Bottom Rd. from Morse Rd. and watch for Park entrance on your right soon after the right curve in the road where Cherry Bottom merges into Old E. Dublin-Granville Rd.

www.metroparks.net/parks-and-trails/blendon-woods/

Flag Raising at the Statehouse

Ken Evans, Event Chair

The Welsh Flag was flying over the Ohio Statehouse again to celebrate St. David's Day. And, again, it was a typical late-February Day, about 30° that seemed much colder with a steady North wind.

Kacy Bullard, Director of Public Liaison for the Governor, was there with the Governor's Proclamation; he brought along **Rachel Neil** and **Nicole Waers** from his office. Kacy replaced **Lynn Stevens** who is now with ODOT.

We sang the National anthems with a choir...the choir being on **Myron Cherry's** CD and boom box; made us sound really good. From WSCO, in addition to Myron, were **Roger Roberts**, **Charlotte Prior** (WSCO President), and myself.

Marty and Deb Thomas were there from Elida, Ohio (between Lima and Gomer). They are members of the Northwest Ohio Welsh Society. They had their grandchildren with them, **Morgan and Abigale**. Some of you will remember their Gymanfa Ganu in Gomer, Ohio.

After the ceremony we all hurried to find some warmth, anywhere.

Luncheon, February 27th

Board members **Patti & Jeff Jones**, were the Event Chairs. Table centerpieces were ladies' Welsh hats & "artificial" leeks.



photo by T. Lantz

Annual Membership Meeting minutes
start on page 3

President's Message

My name is **Cathy Beacom** and I am the new President of WSCO. My husband and I live in Sunbury, Oh and have two grown children. Our daughter **Casey** got involved with WSCO through a communications internship while at OSU, so that is how I became involved with this wonderful organization!! It has become so interesting to realize how privileged we all are to have our Welsh heritage.

The Board has been looking for ways to publicize WSCO and to generate more interest in our organization. If you have ideas or would like to help in any way, please contact me or a board member. We would love to hear from our members! By getting involved, even in a small way, you will be helping to grow WSCO into a thriving organization, and to help preserve our Welsh heritage for years to come.

The WSCO Picnic is Saturday July 16th. We hope to see many of you there!

Membership Matters

BASIC WSCO MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Membership Benefits include a subscription to WSCO's newsletter, *Dragon Tales*, a vote at the Annual Meeting (except children under 16), advance notice of WSCO events, a membership roster, and 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 Jan 1 and Sept 20), OR, those received Sept 21 - Dec 31 will be applied to the **next** membership year, and will begin on Jan 1 of that next year. Please note - memberships not current as of January 31 may not be included in the annual member roster, and membership must be current to vote during the Annual Meeting.

Lifetime Memberships (begins on date received):
Individual or a Family Unit: \$175 one-time, - or -
 (NEW) three (3) annual installments, \$75 ea.
 - or -
Individuals over 80 years old: \$30 one-time

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

Laura Jenkins Gorun (*Current Membership Chair*)

Welcome to New Members

WSCO sends a big *Croeso!* (Welcome!) to all of 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.

From a book that wasn't about "genealogy", "history", "Wales", or anything similar ...

For the first time Isaac understood the expression "hallowed ground." ... he was the last link in the human chain that had been forged in this place. ... he had never met the people who farmed this land, who lived in this house, who survived sorrows and joys here ... But despite that, he was still one of them. He had never stepped foot on this soil, but somehow his roots were here. ---Emilie Richards, *Lover's Knot*, pg. 446

Ancestors. Hiraeth.

Dragon Tales *Newsletter of the Welsh Society of* **Central Ohio**



Editor Donna Boyce

WSCO Officers

President-Cathy Beacom
 Vice President-Laura Jenkins Gorun
 Treasurer-Tegwyn Lantz
 Recording Secretary-Diana Wafe
 Corresponding Secretary-Cathy Beacom

PO Box 12023, Columbus, Ohio 43212
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Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/WelshSocietyOfCentralOhio>

Dragon Tales

is published three times a year, about three-four weeks before each of our annual events

Submissions 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

Submission deadlines: January 8,
 June 8, and September 8

2016 ANNUAL MEETING

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Welsh Society of Central Ohio was held on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at Worthington Hills Country Club, 920 Clubview Boulevard South, Columbus, Ohio. President Charlotte Prior called the meeting to order at 11:17 am.

President Charlotte Prior welcomed all members to the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Minutes – Kay Caudy moved and Myron Cherry seconded that the minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting be approved with no changes. The motion was passed.

President's Report – Charlotte spoke about the picnic in July and that the weather was good, but she would have liked to see more people attend. Charlotte said the Gymanfa Ganu in October was successful and that Tom Lloyd was a wonderful conductor. She announced that there were openings on the Board for the President and Corresponding Secretary. She spoke about going to the meeting of the Affiliated Welsh Organizations at the NAFOW and she brought a publication from Vancouver that she'd received. She also had a publication from Granville, Ohio. They are having a dinner in Granville on March 19th and Laura Gorun will be the featured speaker. Maggie Brooks announced that she had reservation forms for that dinner if anyone was interested. The Southern Ohio St. David's Day celebration is next Saturday. Reservations are needed for that if anyone wants to attend. Charlotte will be attending the NAFOW this year in Calgary. She announced that Donna Boyce is retiring from the job of Dragon Tales editor. Jeff and Patti Jones now have the locker keys.

Treasurer's Report - Tegwyn Lantz presented the Treasurer's Report. There were deposits of \$30,707.44 and expenses of \$13,033.68. A large donation in the amount of \$18,305.21 was received in 2015 from the estate of Margaret Hukill. Tegwyn highlighted some of the expenses from 2015 such as Radio Advertising, Scholarship to the Rio Grande student, St. David's Day cards, Christmas cards, lifetime pins and Note pads. Tote bags were purchased to be sold at the NAFOW and the expense of buying those has been recouped. There continues to be recurring expenses, such as the locker, phone and website. There used to be 2 CD's, one has been transferred to the checking account, the other CD continues to grow. David Jones asked if the family of Margaret Hukill had given any guidance as to how the money she left the society should be spent. Per Tegwyn, no guidance was given. Other recipients of her bequests were given direction on how the money was to be spent, but WSCO was not. David Jones encouraged the Board to continue to sponsor the scholarships to Rio Grande students. Maggie Brooks moved and Myron Cherry seconded that the Treasurer's Report be approved. The motion was passed.

Audit Report – Homer Williams reported the Audit Committee found the Treasurer's Report to be in order. The Audit Committee consisted of Homer Williams and Jeff Jones.

Membership – Laura Gorun presented the Membership report. There are a total of 208 members. The breakdown of members is as follows: 177 Lifetime, 25 Annual, and 6 Special. The special memberships are for groups such as museums. Laura introduced 3 new members that attended the Annual Meeting. There were 7 members that died since the last meeting. Laura announced that she would be stepping down and a new Membership Chair would be needed.

Boards of Directors – There are 7 seats on the board with a term expiring in 2019 and 1 vacancy with a term expiring in 2018. Four of those seats expiring in 2019 are held by current Board Members that have indicated they're willing to continue to serve on the Board. Charlotte read off the names of the members up for re-election, they are Myron Cherry, Ken Evans, Lynn Jones and Tegwyn Lantz. Charlotte asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Charlotte asked those in favor of having the board members elected to another term to raise their hands. She asked for those opposed to raise their hands. There were none opposed. There is a proposed amendment to the Constitution to lower the number of Board members. If that proposal passes there will be 2 vacancies that will need to be filled.

Election of Officers – Charlotte read the nominations for the WSCO officers. They are as follows: President – still need someone for this office, Vice President – Cathy Beacom, Treasurer – Tegwyn Lantz, Corresponding Secretary – still need someone for this office and Recording Secretary – Diana Wafe. Myron Cherry moved and Anne Riley seconded that the officers be approved as presented. The motion was passed.

Acknowledgement of WSCO Board Members no longer on the Board – Charlotte thanked Stacy Evans, Stanton Prior, Beth Ransopher and Laura Thomas for their time on the board. She acknowledged how valuable each of them has been while they served on the board.

2016 Annual Membership Meeting Continued from page 3

Acknowledgement of current WSCO Board Members – Charlotte had the current Board Members stand.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments – Charlotte explained the change to the constitution to change the number of board members from 21 to 18. Article IV (A) currently reads “The Board shall consist of twenty-one (21) elected members, including Officers, plus any ex-officio members”. The change will read “The Board shall consist of eighteen (18) elected Members, including Officers, plus any ex-officio members”. Myron Cherry made a motion to approve the amendment, David Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Old Business – There was no old business.

New Business – There was no new business.

Other Announcements

- Ken Evans spoke about the flag raising at the Statehouse on February 26th. Ken read a proclamation from the Governor that was read at the flag raising. Myron Cherry brought a CD player and CD to the flag raising so the National Anthem of the United States and National Anthem of Wales could be played. It made it easier for those in attendance to sing along.

- David Jones said he was amazed at the contribution from Margaret Hukill. He suggested there be an article on the front page of Dragon Tales and feels we should honor her at the Gymanfa Ganu in the fall. Myron Cherry remembered Margaret Hukill and stood up and spoke about her. He said she used to attend Welsh events and also attended Miami Avenue Presbyterian. He has a picture of her from a 1962 picnic.

- Ken Evans asked David Jones if he'd like to be the Dragon Tales editor. David declined.

Myron Cherry moved, Maggie Brooks seconded and we adjourned at 11:50am.

Diana Wafe, Recording Secretary.

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Upcoming Events

Monthly (except July, August & December), 2nd Tuesdays, 7-9 pm

WSCO Board Meetings

Valleyview United Methodist Church, 2833 Valleyview Dr., Columbus

For more information call 614-500-7998 or visit www.welshsocietyofcentralohio.org.

Most Months, 4th Wednesday, 8 pm

WSCO Trivia team

Coaches Bar & Grill, 1480 Bethel Rd., Columbus

For more information call 614-500-7998 or visit www.welshsocietyofcentralohio.org.

July 16, 2016, Saturday, 4-8pm

WSCO Annual Potluck Picnic, Blendon Woods Metro Park, Dogwood Shelter, *See page 1*

July 17-24, 2016

Cwrs Cymraeg, Huntsville, AL. www.madog.org.

July 17-24, 2016

Welsh Heritage Week, Ottawa, Ont. Contact Beth Landmesser, hyl@ptd.net or 570-814-7689.

Sept. 1-4, 2016

North American Festival of Wales, Calgary, Alberta Canada. www.nafow.org.

September 25, 2016, Sunday

144th Gymanfa of the Central Southeast Ohio Association of Welsh Congregational Churches at Nebo Church near Rio Grande, OH. Contact Madog Center for Welsh Studies 740-245-7186.

Oct. 16, 2016, Sunday, 2:30pm

WSCO Gymanfa Ganu and Te Bach, Details closer to event

2016 WSCO Travel Scholarship

Jeanne Jones Jindra

Director, Madog Center for Welsh Studies, URG

For the past five years WSCO has awarded \$500 to a student(s) participating in the Welsh Study Abroad Program through the Madog Center for Welsh Studies at the University of Rio Grande. It was decided at a recent board meeting to fund the scholarship for three more years. Each scholarship awardee submits an article and photos for the *Dragon Tales* after returning home.

The 2016 WSCO Travel Scholarship was awarded to **Marah Hager**, from near Rio Grande, who is a sophomore at the University of Rio Grande, planning to double major in Theater and English. She has been enrolled as a College Credit Plus (CCP) student at URG during her last two years at River Valley High School and has been able to study Welsh language levels I, II and III. Marah says she "has basic conversation skills excellent for travel and a healthy respect and enthusiasm for the language." She has been involved in many of the activities of the Madog Center promoting awareness and celebration of Welsh culture in our community, Welsh theater productions, and was a member of the Madog Youth Choir under Davis Interns **Lisa Jones** and **Alis Newberry**.

2016 WSCO Margaret "Meg" Hukill Scholarship

Jeanne Jones Jindra

Director, Madog Center for Welsh Studies, URG

WSCO Board of Directors decided to award a separate \$500 scholarship in 2016 in memory of member Margaret "Meg" Hukill, who passed away in 2014 and left a legacy to encourage young people to travel. Two deserving young ladies from the university will split the award.

Kasey Eblin, from Gallipolis, is a junior majoring in Social Work. On her application essay, Kasey said she "would like to study abroad in Wales because it will give me a chance to see how social policies in other countries differ from those in the United States."

Julia Snow, also from Gallipolis, is going into her senior year at the university and studying Business & Communications. She admits to being fairly well-travelled, "due to her mother being a musician in several symphony orchestras", but wants to experience a point of view outside of the ones she has grown up with in America.

The Madog Center says "diolch yn fawr iawn" to the Welsh Society of Central Ohio for their consideration and continued support of our program to help young people experience the beauty and wonder of Wales!

Famous Welshman

Submitted by Mary Ellen Morgan

He was born in Denbigh, Wales. His mother, Betsy Parry, was nineteen years old at the time of his birth, and his father, John Rowlands, was an alcoholic. The parents were unmarried so his birth certificate refers to him as a bastard, and the stigma of illegitimacy weighed heavily upon him all his life. He was raised by his grandfather until the age of five. When his guardian died, the boy stayed for a short time with cousins and nieces but was eventually sent to St. Asaph Union Workhouse for the poor, where he stayed until the age of 15.

After completing an elementary education, he was employed as a pupil teacher in a National School. In 1859, at the age of 18, he made his passage to the United States in search of a new life. Upon arriving in New Orleans, he absconded. According to his own declarations, he became friendly with a wealthy trader whose name he later assumed, although this adoptive parent died soon afterwards. He assumed a local accent and began denying being a foreigner.

He participated reluctantly in the American Civil War, first with the Confederate Army but, after being taken prisoner, he went over to the other side and deserted (or didn't show up). He then joined the Navy, but deserted again.

By what name do we know this person? What was the famous phrase he uttered? What was his line of work?

Quiz answers are elsewhere in this newsletter

WSCO Celebrates St. David's Day 2016



photo by T. Lantz

WSCO members **Jeanette Fulton Muench** (l.) and her twin sister **Jeanine F. Watters** (r.), show off their Welsh hats in front of a red & white quilt. The Herbert Reunion Quilt was made by WSCO member **Laura Thomas** of Columbus, OH, and signed by descendants of **Benjamin Herbert** who immigrated to Radnor, OH, from Llandefalle, Wales, in the early 1800's.

Current WSCO Board Members

Cathy Beacom (President and Corresponding Secretary), **Kathy Chamblin**, **Myron Cherry**, **Ken Evans**, **Laura Jenkins Gorun** ((Vice-President and Membership Chair), **Jeanne Jones Jindra** (Director, Madog Center for Welsh Studies) *ex-officio*, **Jeff Jones**, **Lynn R. Jones**, **Patti Jones**, **Tegwyn Lantz** (Treasurer), **Mary Ellen Morgan**, **Henry Morton Stanley** ("Dr Livingstone, I presume.", Journalist), **Bob Penry**, **Charlotte Prior**, **Diana Wafe** (Recording Secretary), **Dianne Williams**, and **Homer Williams**.



* * * * *

Bi-centenary Celebrations Need Your Help
Cardiganshire, Wales to Ohio 1818- 2018

In the year 1818 six families from Cardiganshire (now Ceredigion), Wales, UK decided to emigrate to Ohio. The enterprise of these six families influenced a number of other people back in Wales, and from 1830 onwards it is estimated that well over 3,000 migrants left their homes in Cardiganshire and made for the counties of Gallia and Jackson in Ohio.

In a few years time 200 years will have lapsed since the first few families left, and to celebrate the bi-centenary we intend to publish a book which will include as many stories as possible, highs and lows, remembering the courage, enterprise and sheer guts of all those brave souls, and the stories of their descendants.

The area they left is part of the old County of Cardiganshire (now known as Ceredigion) and we continue to be known as 'Cardis'. Most of the emigrants came from Mid Ceredigion, the area between the coastal towns of Aberaeron and Aberystwyth and the in-land towns of Tregaron and Lampeter. Centre point of the area is dominated by the hills of the Mynydd Bach (translated means Small Mountain) and the people who made the hazardous journey to Ohio have become known as 'Ymfudwyr y Mynydd Bach', translated to 'Mynydd Bach Emigrants'.

The contents of the book will be the stories of the original settlers in the 19th century or likewise the stories of their descendants right up to current times -- we are also looking for stories which highlight the great hardships suffered by the early settlers and their descendants. You may consider that the story of your family is not that unusual, but let us be the judge of that. Some of the stories will highlight the tribulations of your family over a number of generations and some will focus on only one generation, and that will be fine by us. If you feel that your family has an interesting story but you are not sure whether you can do the story justice, please jot down some of the important aspects and we will help you to get the story together for inclusion in the book.

It would be great if you have in your possession any portraits of families or individuals, whether they are photos of original settlers or their descendants. Also appreciated would be any original tickets, prints, farm plans, interesti-

ing documents or memorabilia – no need to send any original material just tell us of their existence for now.

We hope to arrange a programme of events in 2018 to commemorate this important landmark, so why not mark your diary, and join us in Wales for these celebrations.

If you are aware of any friends or acquaintances who have a story to tell and are descendants of the Mid-Cardiganshire settlers, let them know our contact details.

We eagerly await to hear your stories.

Arwel Jones - ja.jones50@btinternet.com
Ray Williams - raywilliamsvet@yahoo.co.uk

(information is excerpted from the original email message – those who are interested in participating be sure to contact Mr. Jones and / or Mr. Williams directly rather than WSCO. ---DT Editor)

Summer Hours at the
Welsh-American Heritage Museum

The Welsh Museum, located at 412 E. Main Street in Oak Hill, OH, is pleased to announce they will be open Thursdays and Fridays from 10am-3pm until mid-August. **Jennifer Blake** has been secured as our summer-intern and she will welcome all who visit with a smile. For appointments outside of these days, please contact the Madog Center at 740-245-7186.

WSCO Board Meetings

Board meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for July, August and December, from 7 to 9 pm and usually take place at the Glenwood United Methodist Church, 2833 Valleyview Dr. (at Hague Ave.) Columbus, Ohio, in room 4.

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.

For Board member information, call 614-500-7998 and leave your name and number for a call back, or email info@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org.