

# DRAGON TALES

July - September 2017

**The Welsh Society of Central Ohio**

*Promoting a Strong and Vibrant Welsh Community in Central Ohio*

**Cymdeithas Gymreig Canolbarth Ohio**

*Promoting a Strong and Vibrant Welsh Community in Central Ohio*

## *WSCO Picnic*

**SATURDAY JULY 22 4-8PM. BLENDON WOODS METRO PARK/ DOGWOOD SHELTER**  
**4265 E. DUBLIN GRANVILLE RD, WESTERVILLE, OH 43081**

- We will be grilling hotdogs, hamburgers, and Italian sausages. Just by attending you will be entered in a drawing for Welsh items!
- Meat and buns provided. Bring your own table service and drinks, and a side dish or a dessert to share.
- *Entertainment:* Bob Penry and his band “Down the Glen” will bring out the Welsh singers in us all!

***Note*** – The Picnic is July **22**, which is a week later than usual.

***Hope that you can come!***



**FOOD!**

**MUSIC!**

**WIN WELSH ITEMS!**

**JULY 22 4PM!**

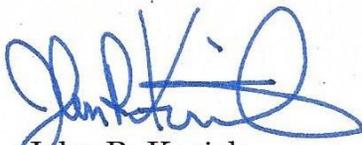


*John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor*  
*Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Ohio*  
*do hereby officially recognize*

## THE WELSH SOCIETY OF CENTRAL OHIO

On behalf of the State of Ohio, we extend a warm welcome to the Welsh Society of Central Ohio as you raise your flag in honor of St. David's Day. Since 1948, the Welsh Society of Central Ohio has worked to promote and preserve Welsh heritage and foster appreciation for Welsh literature, poetry, music, and art. Ohio is a wonderfully diverse state with an exceptional community of ethnic organizations and businesses, and the Welsh community should be proud of their accomplishments that have helped to make our state a welcoming place for people of all nationalities, Best wishes for another memorable event!

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2017;



John R. Kasich  
Governor



Mary Taylor  
Lieutenant Governor



## FLAG RAISING AT THE STATE HOUSE

*Ken Evans, Event Chair*

**WOW!** The temperature was around 70 degrees when we raised the Welsh flag at noon on Friday Feb. 24 on the West Plaza of the State House. The typical Broad and High wind was much stronger and blew us around like paper!

Josie Barga was there representing the Governor and read the Governor's proclamation, celebrating St. David's Day [see copy on page 2] She brought along Conrad, also from the Governor's office.

Myron Cherry again was there with his boom box to accompany us on singing the national anthems. From WSCO, in addition to Myron, were Roger Roberts, Laura Gorun, Cathy Beacom, Donna Boyce, and Ken Evans [event chair].

Nita Poulson, an Evans family friend, was there with her 5 year old grandson, Jake Poulson.

The State house team was, Gary Bezold, who helped us with the flag, and Michael Rupert, a photographer.



*Left to Right: Donna Boyce, Myron Cherry, Nita and Jake Poulson, Ken Evans, Josie Barga, Roger Roberts*

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## BELTANE FESTIVAL 2017

*By Beth Ransopher*

The Welsh Society of Central Ohio (WSCO) was invited to have a display at the Scottish American Society's Celtic Beltane Festival on Saturday, May 13, 2017. The Festival took place at Columbia Woods Park in Norton, Ohio. The Scottish American Society, based out of the Akron/Canton area, is a group interested in the culture and history of Scotland and her people.

As we honor St. David's Day on March 1 of each year, Beltane is a Gaelic May Day festival commonly held on May 1, or about halfway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice, in celebration of the beginning of summer.

This year's Celtic Beltane Festival had lots of music, Scottish and Irish dancing, Scottish clan family displays, food, and several types of vendors highlighting non-profit organizations and shop keepers. In addition, the Celtic Beltane Festival had Highland Games taking place throughout the day. Participants were able to compete and win awards as part of the highland games competitive circuit. *(continued on page 4)*



*Beltane Festival, marching with the Welsh flag, Beth Ransopher, Cathy Beacom, Tegwyn Lantz.*

## **BELTANE FESTIVAL 2017 CONT.**

*(from page 3)*



*Booth setup at Beltane Festival*

Highland Games are held throughout the year in Scotland and other countries as a way of celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture and heritage.

In previous years the Welsh Country Dancers of Central Ohio participated at the Beltane Festival by providing demonstrations and audience participatory dancing in the Welsh traditions. Since the Dance troupe disbanded, Festival officials have missed having the Welsh presence and were very pleased to provide WSCO booth space this year. WSCO provided information on Wales, shared Welsh cake recipes, and distributed fun coloring sheets to the children. Many festival participants stopped by to support the Welsh, share stories of their heritage, and purchase some Welsh-related items such as flags and note cards. WSCO members attending the festival included President Cathy Beacom and her husband Ed, Teg Lantz, and Beth Ransopher, who communicated with Festival organizers.

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## **ST. DAVID'S DAY AND ANNUAL MEETING 2017**

*By Kathy Chamblin*

This year's St. David's Day luncheon and annual meeting was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at the Worthington Hills Country Club. The weather conditions outside included the usual dull gray, overcast, Ohio skies. Inside, the banquet facility was filled with warm hugs and beautiful smiles from our WSCO members and guests among the cheery yellow daffodil arrangements on every table.

Our event kicked off with two unique seminars that were included in the price of attendance. The first seminar was a presentation by our newest board member, Mike Schroeder, of his 2016 summer trip to Wales with his twin teenage grandsons. His photos and narration shared a unique personal perspective that linked to his own past, back when Mike was able to experience Wales for the first time himself as a teen during his father's assignment in the UK with the United States Air Force. The next seminar was just as engaging. Board Member, Homer Williams, shared his passion for home-brewed beer. He demonstrated tools used by most home brewers and provided various tips of the trade. Attendees were especially appreciative of the generous free samples of two different versions of Homer's special brew.

After the two back-to-back seminars and our annual meeting, attendees ate a hearty luncheon that included warm apple cobbler, which was a perfect choice for such a cold winter day. During the luncheon, our WSCO President Cathy Beacom took a few minutes to thank the WSCO members that collaborated together this year to organize the event. She also provided a few updates for the group before board member, Bob Penry, led everyone in singing a handful of our favorite Welsh hymns, while his daughter Cindy provided accompaniment on the piano.

Stepping back out into the bitterly cold day probably wasn't quite so bad for all of our attendees after such a fun-filled day, especially knowing that spring was just around the corner.

## The Second in a Series of articles about Wales

### LLANELLY HOUSE

*Mike Schroeder*

One of the first places, we visited upon arriving in Wales was Llanelly House, an early 18<sup>th</sup> Century Georgian house built by the Stepney family. The house was restored in recent years by the Prince of Wales Trust at a cost of over 6,000,000 pounds. My cousin, Philip Williams, had suggested seeing it, and my grandsons, Noah and Ryan, and I quickly agreed. We were very fortunate to have the opportunity to see this magnificent property and to learn the history.

The property was first settled as a manor house in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, and one of the great features of the restoration was the view from the parlor over the centuries. They close the shutters, and project what would have been seen from that spot through history. They showed the rural life of the early Middle Ages, with serfs working the fields, and the estuary occasionally flooding the land. We saw the horrors of the Plague, of the civil war (the Stepneys were Royalists), and the building of the present house. We saw the growth of the town, and the Industrial Revolution. My grandsons were rapt, and would say that they had studied certain things in school.

The guides were careful to discuss the changing social history as we move through the various rooms. One room, which had been occupied by a maid, contained her journal. She had been forced

into an improper relationship with either the master or the butler, and ended her life by hanging herself in her chamber. The butler, an old family retainer, was fired, but they found him a job with friends of the family at a nearby estate, leading to speculation that he was the scapegoat for the master's affair.

The lower level showed where the servants worked, preparing meals, polishing silver, cleaning the impressive collection of china commissioned as a wedding present, and taking care of pets. Children were cared for in upper rooms.

If you are ever fortunate to be in Carmarthenshire, I recommend a visit to this very interesting place.



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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Cathy Beacom*

Thanks to all who helped to make our Flag Raising, St. David's Day celebration, and Beltane Festival participation a success!

As mentioned at the annual meeting, the board did discuss other possible venues for St. David's Day, but ultimately decided that Worthington Hills Country Club really has been easy to work with and very accommodating to any changes we may make from year to year. The annual meeting and St. David's Day 2017 will be on February 24, 2018 at Worthington Hills.

Please join us for the annual picnic in July. It is on July **22** this year. Friends and family are all welcome to come and enjoy a get together! Detailed information is in the newsletter picnic article.

We have a new member on the board – Eve Goodwyn, who helped with publicity for the Gymanfa last year. Welcome to the board, Eve!

**Membership Chair Needed !** If you are interested please let me or one of the board members know, or email WSCO.

Thank you!  
*Cathy*

## **2017 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the Welsh Society of Central Ohio was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at Worthington Hills Country Club, 920 Clubview Boulevard South, Columbus, Ohio. President Cathy Beacom called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.

President Cathy Beacom welcomed all members to the 2017 Annual Meeting.

**Minutes** – Kay Caudy moved and Myron Cherry seconded that the minutes from the 2016 Annual Meeting be approved with no changes. The motion was passed.

**President's Report** – Cathy spoke about the flag raising at the Statehouse in downtown Columbus the day before. There were 11 people that attended and there were 2 representatives from the Governor's Office. Cathy spoke about trying to publicize our events more. WOSU was at the Gymanfa in the fall.

**Treasurer's Report** - Tegwyn Lantz presented the Treasurer's Report. She had it showing on the large screen in the front of the room. There were deposits of \$5,446.76 and expenses of \$8,165.42. The deposits consisted of donations, Gymanfa Ganu, marketplace, membership and St. David's Day including donations and the auction. The expenses consisted of donations, Dragon Tales, Gymanfa Ganu/Ysgol Gan, locker, outreach, Post Office box rent, radio outreach, scholarships from WSCO and Margaret Hukill, St. David's Day and insurance. Stacy Evans moved and Laura Gorun seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. 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, Mike Schroeder and Jeff Jones. Homer also remarked he didn't know what we'd do without Tegwyn because she does such a good job.

**Membership** – Laura Gorun presented the Membership report. There are a total of 198 members. The breakdown of members is as follows: 170 Lifetime, 22 Annual, and 6 Special. The special memberships are for groups such as museums. There were only 6 annual memberships that didn't renew from last year. There were 8 members who died since the 2016 meeting. Laura announced that a new Membership Chair is needed.

**Corresponding Secretary** – Cathy has information about St. David's Day celebrations that will be in Radnor and Oak Hill on March 4th. The information will be available in the main room. Cathy asked the membership to let her know of anyone who's sick, as she'd be happy to send a card to them.

**Boards of Directors** – Ken Evans announced that we'd welcomed a new board member, Mike Schroeder, since the last annual meeting. Mike was welcomed with a round of applause. There are 6 seats on the board with terms expiring in 2017 and of those 6 there are 5 board members who indicated they'd be willing to serve another term. Those members willing to serve and up for election are Cathy Beacom, Bob Penry, Diana Wafe, Dianne Williams and Homer Williams. Mike Schroeder moved to accept the nominations of the board members as presented. Kay Caudy seconded the motion. The motion was passed. There are 3 vacancies on the board. Ken asked for nominations from the floor. Eve Goodwyn indicated she'd consider serving in the future. Stacy Evans and Cheryl Evans indicated they would consider serving starting in 2018.

**Election of Officers** – Ken read the nominations for the WSCO officers. They are as follows: Cathy Beacom – President, Kathy Chamblin – Vice President, Tegwyn Lantz – Treasurer, Diana Wafe – Recording Secretary, Cathy and Tegwyn will share the responsibility of Corresponding Secretary, Laura Gorun – Membership. Jeanine Watters moved and Donna Boyce seconded that the officers be approved as presented. The motion was passed.

**Acknowledgement of WSCO Board Members no longer on the Board** – Cathy thanked Laura Gorun for her time on the board and said we all appreciate all Laura has done during that time.

**Acknowledgement of current WSCO Board Members** – Cathy had the current Board Members stand.

**Old Business** – There was no old business.

**New Business** – Cathy announced the board is exploring other options for St. David’s Day next year. Some of the suggestions for next year were Cambridge Tea Room, Clintonville Women’s Club, Mozart’s, Der Dutchman and Blue Moon Event Center in Grove City. Tegwyn Lantz suggested going to one of the places suggested for something other than St. David’s Day since some of the suggestions may not be big enough to accommodate everyone who attends St. David Day. Dianne Williams suggested that any ideas from the membership be sent to either the website of WSCO, which is [welshsocietyofcentralohio.org](http://welshsocietyofcentralohio.org) or call the phone number, which is 614-500-7998 and leave a message.

### **Other Announcements**

- Cathy received information from Jeanne Jindra and let the membership know about the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the 1818 Welsh immigration to southern Ohio and that there is a big celebration planned for June 22-30, 2018 in Aberaeron, Wales. She also told the membership about a bilingual book of collected stories that will be published soon.
  - The Beltane Festival is May 13<sup>th</sup> in Norton, Ohio. WSCO would be represented there.
  - David Jones asked what direction the board will take with the money received from the estate of Margaret Hukill. Tegwyn Lantz let him know WSCO would be moving \$25,000 into a CD and that WSCO may spend a little more on the Gymanfa in October to help bring in talent from outside the area.
  - The NAFOW is in Rochester, NY this year from August 31 – September 3.
  - Tom Lloyd sent information about the Columbus State Community College Concert Band performing on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at Columbus State. It is a Celtic Festival and will feature music from Wales, Scotland and Ireland.
- David Jones moved, Charlotte Prior seconded and we adjourned at 12:10pm.  
Diana Wafe, Recording Secretary.
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### **A BIT OF WELSH TRIVIA!**

1. What is the Welsh name for Wales?
2. Who was responsible for the adoption of the leek as the national emblem of Wales?
3. Which is Wales’ second largest city?
4. Which Welsh mountain is the only mountain in the world to have a national park named after it?
5. Which Welsh market town is known as the town of books?

*\*Answers on the back page of Dragon Tales*



## MADOG CENTER NEWS

Jeanne Jones Jindra

Moderator Evan Davis has announced that the 145<sup>th</sup> Annual Gymanfa of the Central Southeast Ohio Association of Welsh Congregational Churches will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2017, at the Welsh-American Heritage Museum, (the old Welsh Congregational Church) 412 East Main Street, Oak Hill, Ohio. The morning session will begin at 10:30pm., lunch will be served at noon, and the afternoon session will begin at 1pm. Rev. David Morgan, Canton, will serve as the minister and Robert Powell, Bidwell, will be the chorister. Contact the Madog Center for Welsh Studies, 740-245-7186, for more information.

### Margaret (Meg) Hukill Scholarship Awardee

Keri Lawrence, a junior Fine Art major at the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College, has received a \$500 Scholarship in memory of Meg Hukill, longtime WSCO member who left a bequest to the society to benefit young people who travel to Wales. Keri has had a passion for travel her entire life, and visited a variety of national parks and beaches in the states. When she applied for the *Study Abroad in Wales* program through the Madog Center for Welsh Studies, she knew this would add the next level to her travel experiences. She will spend fall semester at the Swansea campus of the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, earning credit towards her degree as well as immersing herself in the rich history and culture of Wales.



## DID YOU KNOW?

### WALES BOASTS SOME OF WORLD'S LARGEST SEQUOIA TREES

*Submitted by Mary Ellen Morgan*

Some of the biggest Giant Sequoia Trees growing outside of their native California Sierra Nevada range are in the U.K. They are often towering single trees along a Welsh roadside, on the lawn of an English estate, shadowing the walls of a Scottish castle, or rising prominently above the other 'normal trees' in a town square.

The links, below, are all to photographs of Giant Sequoia Trees in Wales.

Newport - Tredegar House, Monmouthshire, Gwent, Wales  
<http://www.redwoodworld.co.uk/picturepages/newport2.htm>

Llanrhaeadr, Llanrhaeadr Hall, Denbighshire, Wales  
<http://www.redwoodworld.co.uk/picturepages/llanrhaeadr.htm>

Bodnant Garden in Conwy / Tal-y-Cafn (County of Gwynedd), Wales (161 feet tall)  
[https://www.monumentaltrees.com/en/gbr/wales/gwynedd/6521\\_bodnantgarden/19158/](https://www.monumentaltrees.com/en/gbr/wales/gwynedd/6521_bodnantgarden/19158/)

Builth Wells - Cae Castell, Powys, Wales  
<http://www.redwoodworld.co.uk/picturepages/builthWells2.htm> rising prominently above the other 'normal trees' in a town square.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:info@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org), or call WSCO at 614-500-7998.  
Laura Jenkins Gorun (*Current Membership Chair*)

>>>>>> **NOTE:** We need a new membership chair! Moderate computer skills are needed - please email [info@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org](mailto:info@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org) if interested

### **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](http://www.WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org)

Members without access to Internet can request to have a copy mailed by leaving a message at WSCO's Information Line: 614-500-799

## **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 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](mailto:info@welshsocietyofcentralohio.org).



### **Current Board Members**

Cathy Beacom, Kathy Chamblin, Myron Cherry, Ken Evans, Eve Goodwyn, Jeanne Jones Jindra, Jeff Jones, Lynn R Jones, Patti Jones, Tegwyn Lantz, Mary Ellen Morgan, Bob Penry, Charlotte Prior, Mike Schroeder, Diana Wafe, Dianne Williams, Homer Williams..

### **Dragon Tales**

*Newsletter of the Welsh Society of Central Ohio*

**Editor** Casey Beacom

#### **WSCO Officers**

President – Cathy Beacom  
Vice-President- Kathy Chamblin  
Treasurer – Tegwyn Lantz  
Recording Secretary – Diana Wafe  
Corresponding Secretary – Cathy Beacom

PO Box 12023  
Columbus, Oh 43212  
Ph. 614-500-7998

[info@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org](mailto:info@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org)  
<http://www.WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org>

**Facebook** – Welsh Society of Central Ohio

#### **Dragon Tales**

Is published three times a year, about 3-4 weeks before each of our annual events.

Submissions can be made to:

[newsletter@WelshSocietyofCentralOhio.org](mailto: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**

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### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Board Meetings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month 7pm. No meetings in July, August and December.  
Glenwood United Methodist Church  
2833 Valleyview Dr., Columbus

#### **Trivia Team**

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 8pm.  
Coaches Bar & Grill, 1480 Bethel Rd. Columbus

#### **WSCO Picnic**

July 22 2017

#### **NAFOW in Rochester, New York**

Aug. 31 – Sept. 3

#### **WSCO Gymanfa 2017**

Ysgol Gan Oct. 14  
Gymanfa Ganu Oct. 15

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### **Answers to Trivia Questions**

1. Cymru
2. St. David
3. Swansea
4. Mount Snowdon
5. Hay-On-Wye

