

THE WELSH ECHO

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WELSH CLUB OF THE MILWAUKEE AREA NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Issue 1

February 2025

Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area Inc. A 501(c)3 Charitable Organization and a State of Wisconsin Non-Profit Company. The organization is governed by its members, who elect a Board of Directors to manage the Club's affairs on their behalf. The Board members are as follows:

President: Scott Lange
(262) 549-6908
jrobie@msn.com

Treasurer: Gary Cox
(262)-749-2223
garycox@reagan.com

Secretary: Marilyn L Schröder
(414) 961-1371
schraderml@juno.com

Carole Hausmann
(262) 241-5658
carolhausmann@gmail.com

Loree Simuncak
(414) 659-7052
simunclo@gmail.com

Dorothy Ellen Spransy
(414) 791-4911
dspransy@gmail.com

Newsletter: Jan Jones Batty
(414) 861-2202
rbatty@wi.rr.com

Croeso! Welcome!

Here are our 2025 events!



Croeso!

Another year is upon us, and with that a new year to renew and refresh old acquaintances.

The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area is also

seeing a renewal. Some members of our Executive Board have reached the end of their term limits and we look forward to seeing some fresh faces on the board. I want to thank them, and all the board members for their time and commitment to our organization.

We will once again have the St. David's celebration on March 1, 2025, with a great

program planned, good food, conversation, and more. I hope you can join us for this entertaining celebration.

There are other events which we are planning, which you can find in this newsletter. We do hope you can attend some of these events, as they are always enjoyable and fun.

Please also visit our website for updates and cultural and historic information at <https://milwaukeewelshclub.org>

I wish all of you health and happiness in this new year and for many years to come.

Scott Lange
President

Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area

VOLUNTEER AT AN UPCOMING EVENT

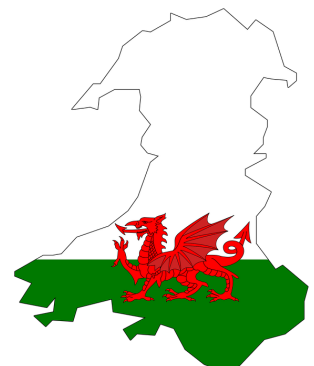
Sign up to volunteer at an upcoming cultural event. It's a great way to meet others who are interested in their ethnic heritage plus it's a lot of fun!

Join us and show off your Welshness!

Turn to page 3 to read about the ethnic fests we join!

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WELSH CLUB OF THE MILWAUKEE AREA

2025 Club Events

- **March 1, 2025 (Saturday) – St. David's Day Luncheon**

Celebrate Welsh culture & meet friends (Registration form on page 5 of newsletter)

11:30 a.m. Social / 12:30 p.m. Welcome and Lunch; Venue: Three Pillars, 314 East Village Court, Dousman, WI 53118

- **August 9, 2025 (Saturday) – Summer Picnic & Games**

11:00 a.m. Burgers, brats and hot dogs provided!

Bring a dish to share. RSVP: Text to 414-861-2202 or email rbatty@wi.rr.com

Venue: Home of Jan Batty, W68N361 Palmetto Avenue, Cedarburg, WI 53012

- **October 4, 2025 (Saturday) – Welsh Club Gathering**

11:30 a.m. Social / 12:30 p.m. / 1:30 p.m. Program

Venue: Three Pillars, 314 East Village Court, Dousman, WI 53118; Reservations: Gary Cox garyjcox@reagan.com.

THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF ST. DAVID

90TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION

On March 1, 2025, come enjoy an afternoon of Welsh camaraderie and delicious food to celebrate **St. David's Day**. We are meeting at Three Pillars, 314 East Village Court, Dousman, WI 53118. The registration form for this event is included in the membership form at the end of this newsletter. The menu is Irish pork stew, pesto chicken tortellini, vegetables, salad, beverages.

Join the festivities at 11:30 a.m. with a social hour, and buffet lunch at 12:30 p.m. A short flute program by Hannah Frohne and an update on the club's plans will follow. We have many great Welsh-related door prizes and a few other surprises!

During the afternoon, we will have a "Welsh yard sale." Please bring along anything related to the Welsh culture that you are willing to donate. These items are for sale by free will offering; funds collected will support the club's scholarship and outreach programs. We already have some interesting items lined up!

We will also have Welsh teacakes and Bara Brith (Welsh speckled bread) for sale.



Everyone had a great time at our 2024 St. David's luncheon. We learned about lesser-known Welsh saints. Here, Marilyn Schröder tells about St. Melangell, the patron saint of hares.

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

Got Email? Our newsletter is quite an expense to mail – we'd love to send it to you via email. Send your email address to Jan Batty at rbatty@wi.rr.com and include your name, home address and phone number and request to get off our snail mail list! If you receive this newsletter via snail-mail, it is the only communication you will receive for the year. To get updates on Welsh events throughout the year, please send Jan Batty your email address.

Want to stop receiving communications altogether? Call or text Jan Batty at 414-861-2202 or email rbatty@wi.rr.com.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Aidan Williams-Brusubardis is the scholarship recipient for 2024-2025. He plays the piano and is a budding composer. Aidan is a freshman at UW Madison, and his intended major is music composition and piano. At our October 2024 get-together, Aidan performed three pieces for us: Piano Sonata No. 2 in B flat minor, Op. 36, 1. Allegro Agitato by Sergei Rachmaninov; Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No. 1 by Frederic Chopin; and Piano Sonata No. 23 in F Minor, Op. 57 "Appassionata" 1. Allegro Assai by Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Aidan's parents came to the luncheon with him, and during conversation we were able to establish his Williams family connections to the southeastern Wisconsin Welsh community.

Do you know of some who would like to apply for a scholarship? Contact Laura Dable for details or applications for the Welsh Club Academic Music Scholarship for the 2025 –2026 school year. Contact information: Laura Dable, Music Scholarship Chair, 1224 Seitz Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Email: ladable@execpc.com or Phone: 262-549-3295.

CLUB OUTREACH EVENTS

Volunteer to work at these important and fun cultural events. Contact Joe Whitmore cariad72@hotmail.com

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> August 30-31, 2025 – Wisconsin Highland Games
Waukesha Expo Center, 1000 Northview Rd, Waukesha, WI | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 21-23, 2025 – Holiday Folk Fair International
Wisconsin State Fair Park, 640 S 84th Street, West Allis, WI |
|--|--|



It's always a good time at the **Wisconsin Highland Games** in Waukesha over Labor Day weekend. Not only is it fun to volunteer at the Welsh display, but you can take some time to wander around and visit the variety of activities and displays.

WHG Left: Joe and Alice Whitmore in front of the Welsh castle set that Joe built.
WHG Right: Merritt and Bryn Ratajczyk try their hand at ax throwing.



The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area is well past its 60th year of involvement in the **Holiday Folk Fair International** held at State Fair Park in West Allis. The 2024 theme was "Celebrate the Culture of Traditional Art" and our booth, the inside of a little Welsh cottage, was filled with displays of Welsh weaves and lovespoon carvings. Joe Whitmore demonstrated Welsh lovespoon carving during the fair. A great big thank you to Joe and Alice Whitmore who coordinate the club's involvement in the fair. Special thanks to volunteers Alice Lundstrom and Dot Spransy who brought their spinning wheels and Welsh wool and spun yarn – the children were fascinated! Dot wore the shawl she wove out of the yarn she spun from natural white and black colors. During the weekend the booth was staffed by Bryn, Eddie and Merritt Ratajczyk, Joe and Kim Corbin, Ann Lemmenes, Camden Phillips, Katie Leszczynski, Ruby Simons, Dick and Gladys Huening, Carole Hausmann, Beryl Sekaran, Danny Proud, Jan Batty and of course Joe and Alice Whitmore.



HFFI Above: Eddie Ratajczyk, Joe Whitmore, Alice Whitmore and Alice Lundstrom.

ELSEWHERE IN WISCONSIN AND BEYOND



Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin

Welsh Weekend for All

Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, 2025

Jerusalem Presbyterian Church, 207 W. Main Street, Wales WI 53183

The Welsh Weekend for All begins on Saturday, with plans still under way.

As part of the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin's Welsh Weekend for All, the 91st Annual Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. at the church. This church is conveniently located and fully accessible.

Check the website for details: <http://wggaw.org>

2025 Peniel Welsh Chapel Events

Peniel Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road (County FF), Oshkosh WI
6 mi. N of Rosendale and 1/2 mi. W of Route 26 on FF

The following events are held at other sites

- March 2** 2:30 PM St. David's Day Gymanfa Ganu and Celebration,
St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 1250 Leonard Point Road,
Oshkosh WI 54904. Te bach to follow.
Director: Ann Lemmenes. Organist: Sarah Conrad.
- April 12** Welsh Tea at the Doe House, 456 Mt. Vernon Street,
Oshkosh WI; \$20/person; reservations required; more
information mid-February; check the Peniel page at wggaw.org
- August 24** 9:00 AM Sunday worship at Bethesda Presbyterian
Church, 479 Clairville Road, Oshkosh, WI

The following events are held at Peniel Welsh Chapel

* refreshments to follow

- May 10** 6:00 PM "New Generation Singers" from Central Wisconsin
Christian School, Waupun *
- June 21** 6:00 PM "Welsh Weddings" presentation *
- July 19** 6:00 PM "Old Time Radio Hour" incl. The Men of Praise. *
- August 23** Afternoon; check the Peniel page at wggaw.org later
Bethesda Cemetery Hunt (alongside Bethesda Pres. Church)
At Peniel: Eduardo Camwy talk about the Welsh in Patagonia
Welsh meal—reservations requested.
Evening concert
- August 24** 2:30 PM 103rd Annual Gymanfa Ganu *
Director: TBD, Reed Organist: Tom White, Pianist: Sarah Conrad
- September 20** 6:00 PM Siow Dalent/Talent Show; sign up to
participate; details forthcoming; check the Peniel page at
wggaw.org. Come & be a part of the fun & fellowship *

2025 NAFOW

August 27-31, 2025 North American Festival of
Wales sponsored by the Welsh North American
Association.

Entertainers from Wales, street fair, seminars, workshops,
marketplace, tea room and plenty of Welsh fun and fellowship.
Delta Hotels Ottawa City Center, 101 Lyon St. N, Ottawa, Canada
For information and registration: www.nafow.org



2025 Wisconsin Gymanfa Ganu Schedule

State Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM

May 4, 2025, Jerusalem Presbyterian Church, 207 W. Main
Street, Wales WI

Peniel/Rewey Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM

June 8, 2025, Peniel Presbyterian Church
1449 Peniel Road, Mineral Point WI

Wild Rose Gymanfa Ganu – 2:00PM (note time)

July 27, 2025, Wild Rose Presbyterian Church
501 Jackson Street, Wild Rose WI

Peniel/Town of Eldorado 103rd Gymanfa Ganu 2:30PM

August 24, 2025, Peniel Chapel
W9644 Zoar Road, Oshkosh WI

Mineral Point Cornish/Celtic Festival Sept 26-28, 2025

September 29, 2024, 6th Annual Gymanfa Ganu 2:30PM
Trinity Episcopal Church, 403 High Street, Mineral Point WI
Website: www.cornishfest.org

80th Annual Cambria Gymanfa Ganu

2:30PM and 5:30PM Supper served between sessions \$
October 12, 2025, Cambria First Presbyterian Church
Corner of Florence and Towyn Streets, Cambria WI

Christmas Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30 PM

November 9, 2025, Portage Presbyterian Church, 120 W.
Pleasant St., Portage WI

Check the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association website
for more information and updates—<http://wggaw.org>

2025 Cultural Events

July 20-27, 2025 Cwrs Cymraeg One week Welsh language
immersion course sponsored by Cymdeithas Madog at
State University of New York, New Paltz NY
Scholarships available for all ages
For information and registration: www.madog.org or
speakwelsh.org; contact: secretary@madog.org

July 20-27, 2025 Welsh Heritage Week

Rio Grande University, Rio Grande OH
Information and registration: welshheritageweek.org
Contact: Beth Landmesser hwyl@ptd.net; (570) 814-7689

2025 MEMBERSHIP, ST. DAVID'S LUNCHEON AND DONATIONS

Make check out to: Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area Inc.

Mail to: Gary Cox, Welsh Club Treasurer, 1957 Division St., East Troy WI 53120 Email: garyjcox@reagan.com

MEMBERSHIP

You do not have to be a member to attend events. We welcome all.

Membership fees support the club scholarship and outreach programs.

ST. DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION—Please return form by February 21, 2025

Member Name			
Additional Family Members			
Welsh Family Name			
Address Line			
City			
State & ZIP Code			
Email Address for correspondence			<input type="checkbox"/> Send EVERYTHING via email
Telephone (Best Time: am/pm)	Home: ()	Cell: ()	
I would like to help with: <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Outreach (Fairs) <input type="checkbox"/> St. David's Celebration <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic <input type="checkbox"/> Present a Program			

ITEM	COST	# Required	Total \$
Membership – Individual	\$25		\$
Membership – Family (More than one person)	\$40		\$

Meal Cost—Adult: \$20.00 / Child \$15.00 (12 and under)

Menu: Irish pork stew, Pesto chicken tortellini, vegetables, salad, dessert; beverages

Names of Individuals Attending	Meal Cost	Total \$
	___ x \$20 Adult	\$
	___ x \$15 Child (12 & under)	\$

DONATIONS

Donor's name as it should appear in St. David's Day luncheon program (deadline is February 21, 2025):	
Donation in honor of:	\$
Donation in memory of:	\$

TOTAL REMITTED	\$
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WELSH CLUB OF THE MILWAUKEE AREA, INC.

Jan Jones Batty, Newsletter Editor

W68N361 Palmetto Avenue

Cedarburg WI 53012-2210