

THE WELSH ECHO

YR ECO CYMREIG

MILWAUKEEWELSHCLUB.ORG



WELSH CLUB OF THE MILWAUKEE AREA NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 1

February 2026

Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area Inc. is 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 its behalf.

Board members:

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

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

Secretary: Marilyn L. Schröder
(414) 551-4321
schradermarilyn46@gmail.com

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

Volunteers:

Cultural Outreach:
Joe and Alice Whitmore 262 392-2717
cariad72@hotmail.com

Music Scholarship Chair:
Laura Dable (262) 549-3295
ladable@execpc.com

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

Published by the
Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area Inc., 2757 N.
Frederick Avenue,
Milwaukee WI 53211-3632

A Wisconsin Non-stock Corporation Federally
Regulated by its 501(c)3 Charitable Status
ID: # 81-1955363

Croeso! Welcome!

Here are our 2026 events!



Croeso!

As we enter 2026, I would like to wish you all a healthy and prosperous new year, and hope you have survived the unusually cold temperatures this winter has brought us.

With the new year, there comes many fun and interesting events for members of The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area and their friends and family. Please look through this newsletter for details on the events. There's always something fun for everyone.

We will once again be having the St. David's celebration on March 1, 2026, with a great program planned, good

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

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

I would also ask that you encourage your family and friends to join us at these events, as they are more fun when shared. Remember, you don't have to be a member to participate.

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

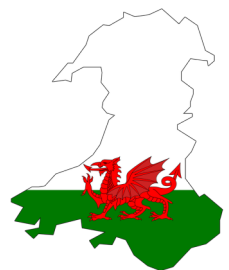
Sign up to volunteer at an upcoming cultural event. It's a great way to meet others who are interested in their ethnic heritage plus it's a lot of fun!

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

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.



2026 Club Events

- **March 1, 2026 (Sunday) – St. David’s Day Luncheon**

11:00 a.m. Social / 12:00 p.m. Welcome / 12:30 Lunch; Venue: The Waukesha Elks Club, 2301 Springdale Road, Waukesha WI 53186. (Registration form is on page 5 of this newsletter.)

- **August 8, 2026 (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

The Celebration of St. David

91st Celebration

On March 1, 2026, come enjoy an afternoon of Welsh camaraderie and delicious food to celebrate **St. David’s Day** at The Waukesha Elks Club, 2301 Springdale Road, Waukesha WI 53186. Park in the back at the lower level and enter through the lower level doors. This entry is fully accessible. The registration form for this event is included in the membership form at the end of this newsletter. The menu is Welsh leek soup, garden salad with rolls, Welsh lamb stew and/or Beef tips with noodles, braised carrots and a variety of desserts. A cash bar is available.

Join the festivities at 11:00 a.m. with a social hour, welcome at noon, and buffet lunch at 12:30 p.m. followed by a short program by our scholarship winner Nadia Dorsey, business meeting, memorial service and group singing. We have some great Welsh-related door prizes lined up!

During the afternoon, we will have a “Welsh yard sale.” Contact Dot Spransy (contact information on page 1) if you 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 will also have Welsh teacakes and Bara Brith (Welsh speckled bread).

90th Celebration

The Welsh Club of the Milwaukee Area celebrated St. David in style on March 1, 2025 with a luncheon in Dousman WI. Club president Scott Lange was our MC. He recognized Past St. David’s Society of Waukesha presidents who were present, George Morris and Dan Pugh. Marilyn Schröder organized the music and accompanied us as we sang national anthems and a few Welsh favorites.



We were treated to a performance by a flute octet from US Whitewater, led by the club’s 2022-2023 scholarship winner Hanna Frohne.



After a buffet lunch, we were entertained by a flute octet from UW Whitewater. A short memorial service followed, and

we wrapped up the afternoon with the awarding of door prizes.



Scholarship Recipient



Nadia Dorsey is the club scholarship recipient for 2025-2026. Nadia is currently a second year student at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. She is from Appleton, Wisconsin.

Nadia is studying Music Education, hoping to teach the children of tomorrow how important music is in our daily lives. She is a vocalist who is versed in jazz, classical and contemporary styles. She often performs jazz around the Milwaukee and Appleton areas. Check out her website nadiadorsey.com for more information.

Do you know of some who would like to apply for a music scholarship? Contact Laura Dable for details or applications for the Welsh Club Academic Music Scholarship for the 2026 –2027 school year. Contact information: Laura Dable, Music Scholarship Chair, 1224 Seitz Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Email: ladable@execpc.com or Phone: 262-549-3295. The application form is also available on our website: milwaukeeelshclub.org.

Club Outreach Events

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

Wisconsin Highland Games

September 5-6, 2026—Wisconsin Highland Games
Waukesha Expo Center, 1000 Northview Rd, Waukesha WI

Take some time over the Labor Day weekend to volunteer at the Welsh display at the **Wisconsin Highland Games** in Waukesha. It's a lot of fun meeting your fellow Celts! While you're there, take

some time to wander around and visit the variety of activities and displays.

Holiday Folk Fair International

November 20-22, 2026—Holiday Folk Fair International
Wisconsin State Fair Park, 640 S 84th Street, West Allis WI

Sign up to volunteer at the **Holiday Folk Fair International** held at State Fair Park in West Allis. Visitors to this premier cultural event are interested in their ethnicity, wish to share their travels or are just curious about other cultures. Jan Jones Batty reflects that "The attitude of everyone who stops by the booth is one of ethnic inclusivity ... no one culture supersedes any other."

The 2025 booth had a variety of Welsh cultural items. The carvings by Joe Whitmore—Celtic Cross (Styrofoam!) and Welsh Lovespoons were a big hit and great conversation-starters. Visitors pointed out places they had traveled in Wales and were curious about the language. As always, a great big thank you to Joe and Alice Whitmore who coordinate the club's involvement in the fair. Special thanks to volunteers Jan Batty, Joe and Kim Corbin, Sue Hady, Carole Hausmann, Dick and Gladys Huenink, Ann Lemmenes, Alice Lundstrom, Bryn, Edward and Merritt Ratajczyk, Beryl Sekaran, Dot Spransy, and Sandra Stanicek.



Bryn, Merritt and Edward Ratajczyk staffed more than one shift at the 2025 fair.

Elsewhere in Wisconsin and Beyond

Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin Welsh Weekend for All Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, 2026 First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street, Fond du Lac WI.

The Welsh Weekend for All begins on Saturday, May 2 with plans still under way.

As part of the Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association of Wisconsin's Welsh Weekend for All, the 92nd Wisconsin State Gymanfa Ganu will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026, at 2:30 p.m. at the church. This church is conveniently located and fully accessible. Check the website for details: <http://wggaw.org>

2026 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 1 2:30 PM St. David's Day Gymanfa Ganu and Celebration, WE Community Church, 2644 State Road 116, Waukau WI. Te bach to follow.

Director: Rev. Tom White; Organist: Ann Lemmenes

August 23 9:00 AM Sunday worship at Bethesda Presbyterian Church, 479 Clairville Road, Oshkosh, WI
Note: There is a worship service every Sunday.

The following events are held at Peniel Welsh Chapel

* refreshments to follow

May 9 6:00 PM "New Generation Singers" from Central Wisconsin Christian School, Waupun *

June 27 Ag and Quilt Day

1:00 p.m.—Farm machinery and animals on the chapel grounds

Food available for purchase during the afternoon

6:00 p.m.—Polka Service by Larry Albright *

July TBD 6:00 PM Program to be determined. *

August 22 Afternoon; check the Peniel page at wggaw.org/peniel later
Evening concert

August 23 2:30 PM 104th Annual Gymanfa Ganu *
Director: TBD, Reed Organist: Tom White, Pianist: Sarah Conrad

September 19 6:00 PM Woodwind Quintet *

2026 Wisconsin Gymanfa Ganu Schedule

State Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM. May 3, 2025,
First Presbyterian Church, 1225 Fourth Street,
Fond du Lac WI

Peniel/Rewey Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM
June 7, 2026, Peniel Presbyterian Church
1449 Peniel Road, Mineral Point WI

Wild Rose Gymanfa Ganu – 2:00PM (note time)
July 26, 2026, Wild Rose Presbyterian Church
501 Jackson Street, Wild Rose WI

**Peniel/Town of Eldorado 104th Annual
Gymanfa Ganu** – 2:30PM, August 23, 2026,
Peniel Chapel, W9644 Zoar Road, Oshkosh WI

7th Mineral Point Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30PM
September 27, 2026
Trinity Episcopal Church, 403 High Street, Mineral
Point WI; Held in conjunction with the Mineral
Point Cornish/Celtic Festival Sept. 25-27, 2026
Website: www.cornishfest.org

81st Annual Cambria Gymanfa Ganu
2:30PM and 5:30PM Supper served between
sessions \$, October 11, 2026, Cambria First
Presbyterian Church, Corner of Florence and
Towyn Streets, Cambria WI

Christmas Gymanfa Ganu – 2:30 PM
November 8, 2026, WE Community Church, 2644
State Road 116, Waukau WI

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



September 27, 2026 (Sunday) - 2:00 p.m.

91st Anniversary Celebration of the Minnesota State Gymanfa Ganu

First Presbyterian Church, 220 East Hickory Street, Mankato, MN; Te bach to follow

Director: Rev. Joe Corbin;

Information: Laurie Williams (Minn. Welsh Association President), lmw01lcmn@gmail.com

2026 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 25, 2026*

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: \$35.00

Child \$25.00 (12 and under)

Names of Individuals Attending	Meal Cost	Total \$
	___ x \$35 Adult	\$
	___ x \$25 Child (12 & under)	\$

DONATIONS

Donor's name as it should appear in St. David's Day luncheon program PLEASE PRINT (deadline is February 25, 2026):	
Donation in honor of:	\$
Donation in memory of:	\$

TOTAL REMITTED	\$
-----------------------	----

WELSH CLUB OF THE MILWAUKEE AREA, INC.

Jan Jones Batty, Newsletter Editor
W68N361 Palmetto Avenue
Cedarburg WI 53012-2210

2026 NAFOW

September 2-6, 2026

North American Festival of Wales
sponsored by the Welsh North
American Association.

Entertainers from Wales,
seminars, workshops,
marketplace, tea room and plenty
of Welsh fun and fellowship.

Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel, One Monarch
Place, Springfield MA

Registration opens in March 2026

For information and registration: www.nafow.org



2026 Cultural Events

July 19-26, 2026 Cwrs Cymraeg One week Welsh
language immersion course sponsored by Cymdeithas
Madog at University of Rio Grande, OH

Scholarships available for all ages

For information and registration: www.madog.org or
speakwelsh.org; contact: secretary@madog.org

July 2026 Welsh Heritage Week

Dates and location to be determined

Information and registration: welshheritageweek.org

Contact: Beth Landmesser hwyl@ptd.net;
570) 814-7689