



# W.A.Y. NEWS

WELSH AMERICAN YOUTH OF CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES  
Y GWIR YN ERBYN Y BYD  
(the truth against the world)

Vol. V

Fall

1974

Issue

No. 3

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Another year and another successful Gymanfa Ganu sponsored by the National Welsh Gymanfa Ganu Association. What was different about this one, however, was that it was held in Swansea, Wales.

Much of the planning was done by the Welsh Tourist Board. I'd say they did a bang up job. No matter what the event, it was done in splendor.

Aside from the informal gathering, there was a magnificent garden party held in the Clyde Castle gardens. It was held under a big tent in case of rain. But as it turned out, the day was most spectacular in weather.

The Noson Lawen was a gathering of many talents. We heard from a group singing Welsh folk songs. Also there was a reading of Dylan Thomas.

As we all know all things lead up to the singing on Sunday. This was conducted by Alun John. He really put his worth into his conducting. Likewise we all responded with our best. Fortunately the roof of the building was of strong support.

There weren't many WAY members. But the small group that we had responded energetically. After the Noson Lawen we met and heard Jim Thomas, a classical guitarist, entertain us with an informal recital.

I will not be able to attend the Cleveland Gymanfa October 11, 12, 13. I wish you all well who make it. Dave Davies our liaison and treasurer will be there to help bridge the gap between the old officers and the new.

Cymru am Byth - Wales forever!

Dan Reese, WAY President"

██████ Marian, La Mesa, California 92041

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

"Hi!

Well, here I am, an old married woman! Not really. I just wanted to say hello to everyone and say how pleased I was with the last Newsletter.

So many wonderful things. . . hayrides, Welsh TV programs and Dan with Prince Charles. I don't know which one of them I envy more!

Well, I hope to see a number of you in Cleveland. My husband (never thought I'd use that word) is looking forward to coming if possible. He is Norwegian, English and Indian but his mother-in-law and I will have him as Welsh as possible by October.

My new address is - Jennifer Jensen, [redacted] Oneida St. #7, Utica, N. Y. 13501  
[redacted]

Diolch yn fawr, Jennifer Jensen, WAY Vice President"

Late news flash -- Due to change in plans (unavoidable) it is quite possible that Jennifer may not be able to be in Cleveland but we are sure she will make every effort.

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FROM THE NATIONAL ADVISORS

"Dear WAY Members,

Dave and Bonnie Davies have been busy as usual. Some of their activities have included helping with the publicity for the St. David's Day banquet, acting as an usher at the Chicago Gymanfa Ganu in May and being in charge of the Cambrian Benevolent Society's annual picnic in July.

During the past year Dave has been busy teaching and coaching the Morton College track team. In May he spent five days in Houston at the National Junior College Track Meet. One of his team members placed 11th in the mile run.

In June Bonnie went to Rockford for the Illinois convention of the P. E. O. Sisterhood of which she is a local chapter president.

Owen went to California with his Grandma and Grandpa Forbes to visit his two cousins.

Dave is spending the summer driving a bus for the town of Woodridge. Bonnie and Owen took a short trip to St. Louis to visit friends. Dave, Bonnie and Owen drove to Wisconsin to help Dave's cousin's family move from Lily Lake to Fort Atkinson.

We are looking forward to the fall and the Gymanfa Ganu in Cleveland. We hope to see many of you there.

Sincerely, Dave and Bonnie"

## LETTER FROM LIAISON OFFICER, DR. JOHN R. JONES

My term as a Trustee of the WNGGA expires this year, and with it my appointment as liaison officer between the WNGGA and WAY. This then gives me the opportunity to write what I feel without any "political" consideration.

To most of you, "HEN WLAD FY NHADAU" is nothing more than the Welsh National Anthem, and it is not truly the "Land of my fathers" (or even in some cases your grandfathers). For this reason, the relationship between American (both from Canada and the United States) youth is not as real, and not as vital as it has been for those of us who have come before you. For most of you, you have only an abstract inheritance and not a substantial living reminder or memory of the glory and the beauty that is Wales.

Your task, should you choose to accept it, is to take this inheritance, nurture it, cultivate it, and bring it to an even more productive growth than has heretofore been done.

The Welsh are a stubborn, proud people with deep feelings about their land, their country, their love of music, and their love for their God. Unfortunately however, the Welsh are also very backward about being forward. While the Irish (for example) have made St. Patrick's Day the next thing to a National Holiday in foreign lands, few, if any, outside of the Welsh themselves know about St. David or about a Gymanfa Ganu.

This then is your charge or your duty; Participation and Education.

Participation, by belonging to and attending as many Welsh meetings, programs, and celebrations as you possibly can, and by showing your interest in your inheritance, and, through your talents, making it grow.

Education, by teaching those who have not had the tremendous opportunity to learn about our Wales. Those that you teach do not have to be only those of Welsh extraction. There are many "Irishmen for the day" participating in St. Patrick's day affairs, and you can certainly find as many "Welshmen for the day" or week, or month or year, if you sincerely try!

The future of Canada and of the United States is not only in your hands, but also the future of Welsh customs, history, and traditions in America is yours to decide.

Should you fail, Wales will join with other small countries, such as Estonia and Albania, as only footnotes in future history books.

Should you succeed, and I am confident that you can and will, then Wales will take its rightful place as a small nation that has contributed greatly to the intellectual, artistic, and musical culture of the entire world.

You have come a long way and made good progress since your inception in Milwaukee in 1970, but in the words of one of your own generations songs, "You've only just begun."

I challenge you - can you follow through?

Dr. John R. Jones"

FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT

"GREETINGS

The last Newsletter left me quite excited about WAY and very enthusiastic. It showed a surge of interest and the kind of positive attitude that all of us need if WAY is going to be an active, purposeful organization. I particularly appreciated Penny's practical suggestions on registration, proper facilities, and planned activities for WAY at the National Gymanfas. I also hope to hear more from the new and active group in Ottawa.

I have a few ideas of my own to throw into the melting pot. WAY should have closer ties to the Welsh youth organizations in Wales. I think if we contacted the Urdd Gobaith Cymru for the Plaid youth organizations we could strengthen our cultural ties immensely and increase interest in Wales and the Welsh on both sides of the Atlantic. Perhaps we could have regular reports from Wales in our Newsletter. The possibilities are endless, if we make the connection. Also, besides tidbits of Welsh history in the Newsletter, how about mini-lessons in Welsh. It would be interesting, informative, and fun to insert in each bulletin a small lesson in Welsh giving some common words and phrases with their definition and a pronunciation guide. Selling subscriptions of WAY, a blazer pocket badge, membership pamphlets--the ideas and suggestions could go on and on.

Obviously, what we need to do now is follow up on our ideas and suggestions. And I hope enough people make it a point to attend the Gymanfa in Cleveland this October, so we can work on these ideas and get things moving for our next several Gymanfas. This is the only 'way' we will be able to correlate our ideas, goals, and future activities. So please be there. Perhaps we can get a report from Dan Reese or some other roving WAY member who made it to the Gymanfa in Wales this summer.

Incidentally, in reference to Anna Dunets' letter about "W.A.C.Y.", I think the problem is basically a semantic one. I've always considered America to mean the continent, with North America consisting of Canada, the United States, and Mexico. As Mr. Parri points out the initials W.A.Y. are quite a meaningful symbol for our organization. Perhaps we should concentrate more on making a name for ourselves through our actions and purposefulness rather than through the arrangement of our initials.

I sincerely look forward to meeting you all at the Cleveland Gymanfa.

Yn gwir, Roderic Owen"

██████ N. Market, Lisbon, Ohio 44432

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"My Unattractive Wife" Elizabeth Taylor isn't particularly attractive physically. She has the shape of a Welsh village girl".

----- Richard Burton, 1953

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT ELECT

"Round and About

I'm sure it happens to you every day. Go for a walk and you see a Welsh bumper sticker. Open a newspaper and you see the Cardiff sports scores. Swim to the bottom of the sea and you meet a Welshman (Davy Jones, of course). I know it happens to me so I intend to put all these bits and pieces together in the form of a column. All contributions gratefully received.

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Opera News Vol. 38/No. 26 reports the premiere on March 26 of Alun Hoddinott's Beach of Falsea, the Welsh National Opera's first commissioned work. The libretto by Glyn Jones is based on a South Seas story by Robert Louis Stevenson with the role of Case, the protagonist, being written specially for Sir Garaint Evans, a world famous baritone born in Pontypridd. Did you know the WNO is 28 years old and has in its repertory a Welsh opera - Menna by Arwel Hughes - which it performed at the National Eisteddfod in 1954?

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For those of you who are British humour freaks, let me suggest the comedy team of Flanders and Swann. They have 3 records out on the Angel label - At the Drop of a Hat, The Bestiary of Flanders and Swann, and At the Drop of Another Hat. The latter includes "A Song of Patriotic Prejudice" in which they think Wales criticizing England is not unlike the pot calling the sospan fach. By the way, Swan was born in Llanelly.

\* \* \* \* \*

My husband bought a bar of peanut brittle between sessions at the Niagara Falls Gymanfa. Wouldn't you know it? Made in Cardiff!

\* \* \* \* \*

The fire brigade of Tonypandy, Wales is 100% dedicated. They streamed out of the station to extinguish a chimney fire but forgot all about the pan of french fries they had left cooking on the stove. Predictably, said fries burst into flame and would have burnt down the fire house if a passing motorist hadn't seen smoke pouring out a window, broke in, and tossed them out the window. Thank goodness for civilians!

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A friend of mine submits that Welsh is the language of heaven simply because the devil can't understand it.

\* \* \* \* \*

My husband John and I both work in the theatre and are interested in classical and folk music, sci fi and fantasy novels, and producing short subject films. We'd like to hear from any of you about your interests so we can see what WAY has going for it. Or drop us a line if you run across anything you might think I could use in 'Round and About. The address is: Mr. and Mrs. J. Sharpe [REDACTED] Glencairn Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Jane (Thomas) Sharpe"

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## EDITOR'S NOTES:

Now that you have read the comments from the president, vice president, national advisor president elect and vice president elect it is obvious that WAY is enthusiastically received as an organization "to promote Welsh culture, including hymnology, literature, poetry, drama, dance, and the Gymanfa Ganu, to recognize the mutual responsibility and interdependence of all mankind, and work for the establishment of peace in the world by bringing together young people in harmony and understanding".

It is gratifying to see this sort of thing, especially when one has only to pick up a newspaper or turn on a television set to realize the mounting problems in our world today.

I feel that I must comment on the wonderful letter which we received from the liaison officer, Dr. John R. Jones. When we read this communication upon its arrival it was obvious that deep and careful thought had been given because like many members of the WNGGA he is anxious for WAY to strengthen itself in a manner that the "Welsh heritage be synonymous with normal living and that the perpetuation of all things Welsh in North America be maintained. Rest assured that Dr. Jones has done much for WAY and we would wish to express our thanks.

I am sorry that we did not get any information from Penny on the "bull sessions" for this issue but undoubtedly Penny is preparing herself for her new job as treasurer beginning in Cleveland in October.

And by the way, the Cleveland Gymanfa should be very important to WAY -- first, as has been mentioned before, it will be a change from one administration to the other. Second, it will give the WAY board of trustees an opportunity to start the serious business of securing the strong foundation which WAY has already built.

In this issue, as had been requested by some members, we are including a copy of the constitution. This was specially printed and condensed in size so that it may be cut into four parts for your convenience to carry with you. For an organization to have a constitution is most important because it constitutes the rules and regulations by which it can be governed and in this particular case it is especially well written. True, it is a take-off from the constitution written for the WNGGA but many changes show a strong desire of the WAY board of trustees to be independent and strive for greatness.

This is the original constitution, well written by a concerned committee, but under a little pressure. Question -- should it be reviewed? Some are of that opinion. After all, the founding fathers did not make a perfect constitution the first time and it is doubtful that anyone else could either. In my opinion the WNGGA constitution has much to be desired. It has been changed from time to time and still is not perfect. The WAY constitution perhaps could be polished a bit in order to make it a strong tool to further the "purpose". What do you think?

I would like to make comment about some parts that perhaps you can evaluate:

In Article IV Legislative - the North American continent has obviously been divided into three geographical parts and would in all probability represent a fairly close equal population showing four trustees in each of the three sections. This is brilliant thinking showing equality for all as also for the fact that you have added one member of the board of trustees to the officers representing your executive committee, again showing the same thought--equality.

I would however offer a thought in Article V Officers. As written in the constitution the term of office apparently is two years but it is somewhat hazy as to how long an officer may serve, yet the president is clearly defined that he cannot succeed himself in office. I quote from "Practical Points" written in the Roberts Rules of Order in which it mentions that reasonable rotation of officers is good for an organization which I would suppose would mean that new blood invites new ideas. One could take this several ways, that if an officer is not fulfilling his or her obligation the organization suffers and it would of necessity be an advantage to replace this officer. On the other hand if the quality of said officer is good the organization benefits. The same could be said about the president, that if only allowed two years in office he or she is little more than a figurehead because two years, or in actual fact a matter of hours, since you only meet once a year, is insufficient time for the president to do any real constructive work. After all, the holder of this office is pledged to lead the organization on to a higher plane and should be allowed sufficient time to complete or at least get the project in motion. Would it not therefore be advantageous to allow a president as a successful leader another term to complete the work, or better yet re-elect for one year and again for another one year, making a total of four years, so that the fruits of labor would be obvious? By the same token if this chief executive has not in the two years shown any signs of good leadership he may be replaced in the ordinary way.

In Article VII Meetings, paragraph 3 - I take it that this means that WAY groups be organized throughout the entire continent having officers and holding meetings on their own. This is one of the finest parts of the entire constitution in that it enables WAY not only to grow but develop fine officer material on the national level.

These comments are made simply to start the individual membership thinking, and when a group of people think it results always in progress.

Those of you that went to Wales for the Gymanfa as Dan pointed out had a wonderful time and I am sure that at Cleveland there will be hours and hours of swapping stories. The Welsh people in Wales also had a wonderful time in having members of WAY with them. I was told this many times by the young people over there, so much so that a number of them are trying to find ways and means of visiting North America to renew the acquaintances. I spoke to Mr. Glyn Alban Roberts of the Wales Tourist Board about this and also to Mr. Bill Greenway of New York and there is a good possibility that WAY will have some pleasant surprises in 1975. Glyn Roberts did a fantastic job in Wales, almost unbelievable and Bill Greenway is one of the finest organizers I have ever met, in fact I once called him a virtual dynamo, so putting two and two together, let's see what happens in 1975. I feel that it is important for WAY to have a strong representation in Cleveland so their plans can be formulated to give strength to the 1975 New York Gymanfa.

WAY has a new friend (a valuable friend) who has offered to help any time. She is Jayne Pryddarch, the editor of "News Bulletin" of the St. David's Society of the State of New York. Jayne is gifted far beyond the normal level as editor and writer. She has made a name for herself from coast to coast. Many members of WNGGA want to help because they want "WAY to lead the WAY". Mrs. Ann D. Thomas of Salt Lake City told me the other day that she plans to bring a contingent of WAY with her to Cleveland.

One of my snooping reporters told me a secret the other day which I will tell you just so long as it does not get back to the person involved. Walking around the streets in Swansea, South Wales he saw two Americans going into a shop that sells blazer badges. Following later he was told that one of them, a lady, had made inquiries about the making of badges with a beautiful design representing WAY. Our snoop found out later that the lady was none other than your own liaison officer, Mair Monkhouse, but don't tell her you know.

In closing I would like to point out that my wife Edna and I agreed to run the WAY Newsletter for the past several months because we too are interested in WAY, and we have been more than happy to do it. We hope that we have contributed to this wonderful organization. At least we tried.

Now for the good news. Negotiations have been under way for many months for one of the brightest STARS in WAYland to take over the WAY NEWS. Very much to your advantage is the fact that it will be under the able direction of one of your own members, thinking as you do and as enthusiastic as you all are.

WAY NEWS henceforth will be published by Mrs. Jane (Thomas) Sharpe who could win a beauty contest as Miss Wales any old time and win. You have read her message as vice president elect in this issue and know that she will be an asset to WAY.

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"Y Gwir yn erbyn y Byd" -- "The Truth against the world". Among the Welsh that ancient motto is a beloved one. It came with Roger Williams to America as the acknowledged base on which he had chosen to build his life. It is written today above the fireplace of the house --Taliesin--that Frank Lloyd Wright (the great architect of Welsh lineage) built for himself. Wherever the Welsh migrant goes, it goes, and is handed down to his children and his grandchildren.

Wales, land of mountains, mines, and music sent many people to America. But because these people from earliest times always settled side by side with the English, it has been easy to lose sight of their numbers.

We do know, however, that in the band of one hundred Cavaliers who settled in Jamestown in 1607, there were at least five members from Wales. That among the Pilgrims were six Welshmen, one of whom was John Alden, (1599-1687) builder and cabinetmaker, and a magistrate for over 50 years; that the captain of the Mayflower, Christopher Jones, was of Welsh lineage; that the Welsh ancestor of President Garfield came in 1630 with John Winthrop; and the ancestor of Thomas Jefferson with the Cavaliers who fled to America under Cromwell's Protectorate.

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EDWARDS SOUND SERVICE INC. -- Learn Welsh the easy way -- WELSH LANGUAGE TAPES -- Several universities have purchased Welsh language tapes. -- Write or call Edwards Sound (John Edwards, [redacted] Washington Ave., Racine, Wisconsin 53406 - Tel [redacted] - 9206

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WELSH IMPORTS (Morris Stealey) Box [redacted] Wales, Wisconsin 53183 - Tel [redacted] - 3356

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Gwynn J. Parri -- Publisher and Editor (terminating) "WAY NEWS" P. O. B [redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207 - Tel [redacted] 8000

CONSTITUTION

WAY

Article I

The name of the organization shall be known as WAY, Welsh American Youth of Canada and the United States.

Article II

Purpose

To promote Welsh culture, including hymnology, literature, poetry, drama, dance, and the Gymanfa Ganu, to recognize the mutual responsibility and interdependence of all mankind, and work for the establishment of peace in the world by bringing together young people in harmony and understanding.

Article III

Membership

Any person of Welsh lineage, 13 to 30 years of age, or any person or organization in sympathy with the purposes of WAY, shall be eligible for membership. Any organization member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting. Each individual member in good standing shall be entitled to attend the Annual Meeting and shall be entitled to one vote.

Article IV

Legislative

WAY shall be governed by a Board of Trustees, consisting of elected officers and elected members at large. The Board shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and twelve members at large.

The term of office of an elected trustee or officer shall be two years. There shall be four trustees from Canada, four from the U. S. east of the Mississippi River, and four from the U.S. west of the Mississippi River.

The President shall be Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Article V

Officers

1. The officers of WAY shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

2. The terms of office of each of said officers shall be two years and/or until their successors have been elected and qualified.

3. The President shall not succeed himself in office; however, he may be re-elected after a lapse of two years.

Article VI

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of WAY shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one member of the Board of Trustees elected by the Board; and shall have such authority and duties as set forth in the Constitution and as may be delegated by the Board of Trustees.

Article VII

Meetings

1. The Annual Meeting of WAY shall be held at such time and in such place as the Annual National Gymanfa Ganu is held, the day and hour to be decided by the Executive Committee.

2. The WAY committee in the host city shall make all physical arrangements for the Annual Meeting of WAY.

3. Any regional WAY groups may organize themselves, elect officers, and hold meetings at any time or place convenient to them.

Article VIII

Amendments

1. The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members at the Annual Meeting.

2. Any amendments or supplementary additions to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval, not less than thirty days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting.

3. In the event a vacancy occurs in the Board of Trustees, the remaining number on the Board of Trustees shall, if they deem it advisable, fill said vacancy until the next Annual Meeting, at which time members shall fill said vacancy for the remainder of the term. In the event a vacancy occurs in the Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees shall elect a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

By-Laws

Article I

Duties of the National Board of Trustees.

1. The Board of Trustees shall be the governing body of WAY and shall have control of the general business activities and property of WAY.

2. The meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held the day preceding the Annual Meeting, unless otherwise determined by a majority of the members of the Board. Special meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the Trustees.

3. In the event WAY shall be dissolved, it shall be the duty of the Board to distribute any assets on hand to such charitable organizations in Canada or the United States which have purposes harmonious with those of WAY

Article II

Powers and Duties of National Officers

1. President. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all sessions of WAY meetings and appoint all committees with the approval of the Executive Committee. He shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees and see that the laws, rules, and regulations are enforced and perform any other duty incident to the office.

2. Vice President. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to preside in the absence of the President and perform any duties assigned to him by the President or the Board of Trustees.

3. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep accurate record of the proceedings of the Annual meetings; keep accurate record of membership, and be the custodian of all books and records of WAY. He shall be in charge of general correspondence and shall perform any other duties pertaining to his office and such further duties as may be directed by the President and the Board of Trustees.

4. The Treasurer shall receive all revenue, funds, or money of WAY, shall keep a record of all receipts and disbursements, and shall deposit and maintain all funds in a financial institution approved by the Board of Trustees.

Article III

Committees

1. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one member at large shall constitute the Executive Committee.

2. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to care for the business of WAY that arises between meetings of the Board of Trustees and such other and further duties as may be directed by the Board of Trustees.

3. The following Committees shall be appointed by the President, as provided:

- a. publicity committee
- b. music committee
- c. membership committee
- d. nominating committee
- e. and any other Committee deemed necessary.

Article IV

Quorum

1. A majority of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

2. Fifteen members of WAY shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting.