

W.A.Y.

WELSH ASSOCIATED YOUTH OF CANADA THE THE U.S.
Annual Report 1987-1988

W.A.Y. continues to encourage the younger generations to participate in Welsh activities so that our cultural heritage will continue in North America.

This year, a membership renewal campaign reduced our membership from 345, two-thirds of which were inactive, to 105 active W.A.Y. members. Of these 105, at least half are new members. We see this reduction in membership as purely positive.

To create more member involvement, W.A.Y. has organized a two-week trip to Wales next summer. This July/August excursion will include time at the National Eisteddfod to be held in Llanrwst, a trip to the language center at Nant Gwrtheyrn, and other outings. Some members are interested in entering a W.A.Y. folk dance group in one of the Eisteddfod folk dance competitions, provided an adequate standard can be achieved.

Our W.A.Y. Scholarship Fund has once again allowed W.A.Y. members to attend the National Gymanfa Ganu at a reduced cost. The generous donations by individuals and Welsh Societies have helped our fund to grow. Each year we award as many scholarships as possible, but we always have more money than applicants. Thus, we are asking you to encourage the youth in your area to apply for the W.A.Y. Scholarship next year.

Claire Tallman, after serving admirably as newsletter editor for a number of years, is leaving her post. Through her efforts the newsletter has greatly improved and gained much praise and respect from its readers. Though we are sorry to see Claire go, we deeply thank her for the wonderful job she has done.

W.A.Y. is indeed the only way to a Welsh future. With our new ideas and growing accomplishments, coupled with encouragement from the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association and individual Welsh societies, the future looks bright.

Megan Sue Lloyd
W.A.Y. President



W. A. Y.

Welsh Associated Youth of Canada and The United States

WAY

CYMRU '89: WAY TRIP TO WALES, 1989

At the 1987 annual meeting of WAY, held in St. Paul's, Minn., it was decided that efforts should be made to organize a WAY trip to Wales to coincide with the Welsh National Eisteddfod, to be held in Llanrwst, in 1989. It was felt by the membership present at the meeting that this would indeed be a valuable contribution in meeting the main objective of WAY, namely "to promote Welsh culture, including hymnology, poetry, literature, dance ..." etc. It was also recognised, however, that this would be a very ambitious undertaking, so an appointment was made of a coordinator, to investigate possible funding and to make arrangements in Wales.

A tentative budget and timetable was first drawn up, based on the assumptions of a two-week trip with sufficient participants to enable advantage to be taken of some cost-saving benefits of group travel. The per person budget estimate was as follows:

Return flight to London:	\$ 500
Transport to Caernarfon:	\$ 60
Accommodation at Nant Gwrtheyrn and/or the Urdd camp, Tal-llyn:	\$ 350
Transport to the Eisteddfod:	\$ 30
Accommodation for the Eisteddfod, 1 week:	\$ 210
Food: \$ 20 a day for 15 days:	\$ 300
TOTAL:	<u>\$1400</u> each

These figures assume a departure from the eastern seaboard of North America (New York/Montreal). There would be additional expenses involved for anyone travelling from further west.

The anticipated timetable was as follows:

29 July 1989:	Arrive in London, travel to Caernarfon
31 July - 4 Aug.:	Visit Nant Gwrtheyrn/Urdd camp
5 - 12 Aug.:	National Eisteddfod, Llanrwst
14 Aug.:	Return to North America.

Efforts were made to secure either financial or organizational aid by contacting the following organizations:

The Wales Tourist Board	HTV Wales	Gulf Oil
The Wales Development Agency	Y Cymro	US Steel
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	Plaid Cymru	Ford
Nant Gwrtheyrn	Cymdeithas yr Iaith	Texaco
Welsh Folk Dance Society	Y Faner	Monsanto
The National Eisteddfod	Merched y Wawr	3 M Co.
Gwynedd County Council	Swansea Sound	Alcoa
Wales International	Arts Council of N. Wales	Inco
Welsh Joint Education Committee	Wardair	Dow Chems.
Welsh Folk Song Society	Cardiff-Wales Airport	
Welsh Arts Council	National Welsh-Am. Found.	
Sianel 4 Cymru	WNGGA Scholarship Fund	
BBC Wales	IT & T	

Several of these organizations indicated a willingness to help by way of advertizing and organization (e.g. Y Cymro, BBC Wales, Sianel 4 Cymru, National Eisteddfod), but to date the only ones to provide material assistance are:

1. The Wales Tourist Board, who have made a donation of 1,000 (\$1,800)
2. Nant Gwrtheyrn, whose director, Osian Wyn Jones, has undertaken to make all arrangements within Wales.

Restrictions on the spending of Wales Tourist Board money outside the UK have resulted in the money being paid to Nant Gwrtheyrn. Mr. Jones is attempting to make best use of that money so that travel and accomodation expenses within Wales will be nil. He is also organizing a suitable programme for the first week, involving visits to sites of interest, including Snowdonia, Anglesey, Caernarfon and Bardsey Island (Ynys Enlli). He also hopes to arrange for a comparable group of young Welsh people to stay at Nant Gwrtheyrn at the same time, to provide the opportunity for contacts directly with Welsh youth.

The budget items identified above will therefore hopefully be reduced to airfare plus food, amounting to \$800 per person. Efforts are currently underway to try to obtain reduced airfare rates, but these have not been successful to date.

The major outstanding problem is to obtain some kind of commitment from sufficient WAY members to make the trip worthwhile. The need for university students to work during the summer, plus the financial aspect, mean that for many young people, making a commitment at this stage is very difficult. If the financial burden could be further reduced, the trip would clearly be more attractive and more people would be willing to make an early commitment. This is essential because of the large amount of organization that is required in Wales in order to provide all the necessary transport and accomodation. Mr. Jones has asked me to make a decision by October, 1988 as to whether the trip will go ahead, otherwise the Wales Tourist Board money will be returned. Efforts to secure commitments from WAY members have been through Ninnau, the WAY newsletter and displays at the National Gymanfa.

Megan Lloyd, President, W.A.Y.