

Date: Sat, 05 Apr 2003 11:36:16 -0800
From: Lynn Owens-Whalen <lowens@...>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.75C-CCK-MCD {C-UDP; EBM-APPLE} (Macintosh; U; PPC)
X-Accept-Language: en
To: Ellis Jones <ellis@...>
Subject: Re: Youth Initiative Committee
X-Virus-Scanned: by amavisd-new

True enough, Ellis. And prior to the work of that committee was the work of the Long Range Planning Committee, Membership Committee and others all of which built a foundation on which John's report was produced. Alf Reese has gone on record with many suggestions too. It is so much easier to see the historical context unless one has the advantage that you and I have because we have been working on many of these committees over what seems to be a very, very long time. My fault for not putting together the historical context for the committee to work from.

Thanks for the heads up.

Lynn

Ellis Jones wrote:

> Gerri:

>

> Yesterday I received a copy of Kara Lewis' reply to your email to her
> regarding the above subject. I have read and re-read the two emails and,
> frankly, I am really puzzled.

>

> Last summer, a definitive statement was prepared by Dr. John Ellis
> concerning the WNGGA Youth Initiative Committee. It was included with the
> report of the Constitution Review Committee which was reviewed by the
> Board. The proposed amendments to the Constitution which were taken up at
> the Annual General Meeting on August 31 included Dr. Ellis' statement.
> Copies of that were again distributed to the Board as well as to all
> members at the AGM.

>

> It is really puzzling to me to be starting again at square 1 on this. Are
> we reinventing the wheel after it has moved along so well? In Kara's note
> she refers more than once to WAY. WAY (Welsh Associated Youth) no longer
> exists. It ceased to exist at the time of the Annual General Meeting.
> They turned over the balance of their treasury to WNGGA to be used to
> support activities of the Youth Initiative Committee.

>

> Regretably I have been kept pretty much out of the loop on most of the
> WNGGA Committees but in this particular situation I feel I must alert you
> that a lot was done last summer and I am very uneasy because it appears we
> are now starting over. Why?

>

> If you are not able to locate that one page statement by Dr. Ellis, let me
> know. As pointed out above, it was given to all members of the Board on
> two occasions.

>

> Ellis J.

To: gbakerp [REDACTED]
From: Ellis Jones <elli [REDACTED]>
Subject: Youth Initiative Committee
Cc: lowens-wha [REDACTED]
Bcc:
Attached:

Gerri:

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Ellis J.

From: "Kara Lewis" <klew[REDACTED]>
To: <Gbaker[REDACTED]>
Cc: "Ellis Jones" <ellis[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: WNGGA Youth Initiative Committee
Date: Tue, 1 Apr 2003 15:57:18 -0500
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)
Importance: Normal
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000
X-Virus-Scanned: by amavisd-new

Hi,

I think that your question is important: what does the WNGGA have to offer the youth? Firstly I think we should establish what is our target group. I know that the Youth Movement in Wales targets up to 25 year olds.

These will be mostly the grandchildren of our members. It will also be members of Celtic/Welsh departments in the US.

One great resource are the Welsh societies. I have a good list at the Madog Center. We should be a support for them, and encourage them to enroll young folk buy suggesting ideas etc

As to what we can offer, we need to look at what youth want - yet keep in mind the mission of the Gymanfa. I think that the younger children are easier to deal with than the older kids. Eisteddfodau (written/art) can be done before the Gymanfa, and maybe have a show of the works at the Gymanfa. A newsletter aimed at them with games and creative ideas. At the Gymanfa we could have workshops aimed at kid's - dance, singing.

For the older kids, here are some ideas I have suggested before:

WAY

-What can we offer the youth?

Discounts to Wales Direct; Harp & Dragon

Newsletter – Wales today – Heledd

Discounts info

Where to study Welsh in US

Famous Welsh today

Competition – win Welsh Language CD's

Advertise NWAFF & Welsh Home for the Aged scholarships

Cwrs Cymraeg

Gymanfa Ganu – Grandparents – target them to let their grandchildren know

Offer "Bring your grandchild ½ price"

Contemporary Welsh films

Contemporary Welsh music workshops

WAY afternoon

Website – membership forms; information on cool Welsh websites (inc. URDD, music etc); Gymanfa Ganu info; Trip info

Have the youth help with organization, President, Secretary etc.

Advertise – Ninnau/Y Drych/Yr Enfys

Send to Berkeley/Harvard/Rio Grande/Green Mountain & other Welsh/Celtic Inst's

URDD – pen friends

Trip to Wales 2004 – to coincide with June Eisteddfod - have spoken to people at the URDD and they want to help.

WAY scholarship for WAY to study Welsh in US - at Rio Grande????!!!

Anyway,

that's all for now. We are working hard with our Youth here, and are slowly making progress. Our exchanges are very encouraging and more and more Rio students are taking an interest in the heritage of this area.

Please contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing from the rest of the committee.

Kara

Kara Lewis
Cyfarwyddwraig/Director
Canolfan Madog Center
Prifysgol Rio Grande
University of Rio Grande

www.rio.edu/madog

-----Original Message-----

From: Gbakerparry@aol.com [mailto:Gbakerparry@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 01, 2003 12:06 PM
To: klewis [redacted] NainTa [redacted], John Ellis; Sheila Pepper
Subject: WNGGA Youth Initiative Committee

I apologize for leaving this so late, I have been busy up to now with the planning committee for 2003 in Richmond as well as local Welsh Stuff. I feared it was too late and had given up hope of starting any discussion let alone any recommendations for the 1/2 year meeting in April. I kept putting it off until I had a better understanding of the direction and idea behind forming this committee and I'm not sure do. So instead of agonizing about where to begin, I figure we should just begin.

I have had a few discussions with Lynn Owens-Whalen about the scope of this committee so as to not go off into an unintended direction,

and its kind of wide open

The question being, along with trying to fit things of youthful interest into the Festival of Wales Weekend activities, what are some alternative ways to connect with a younger audience, either actively or passively? I don't think it is realistic to try to entice whole families to the Sept. Weekend in today's world for more reasons than just money and time keeping them away. So how do we reach them let them know we are here and that we have something to offer and what do we have to offer?
I will gather together my post it notes that I have jotted here and there and hope you might have a few thoughts laying around as well.

I am looking forward to hearing your thoughts.
Gerri Baker Parry