

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, NATIONAL '94
November 10, 1992
ZymoGenetics

The meeting was called to order by President, Alan Upshall at 7:30pm

PRESENT: Brian Parry, Steve Ensley, Liz Heath, Wyn Morgan, Tim Dyck,
Bob Matthews, Alan Upshall; Gretta Upshall

1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved with one correction -
Cincinnati paid \$10,000 (American) not Canadian to the Morriston
Orpheus Choir. (Page 4)

2. BUDGET - STEVE

Using Cincinnati as a reference point, Steve made budget handouts
for each component to use as worksheets (attached)

QUESTIONS - Bob - re Gymanfa facility - do we have to cost out each item
in Meydenbauer? The daily rent should be split if necessary. Liz - when
will we decide what's to go where? Hyatt v Meydenbauer? Alan - when we
know what we are doing, then we can decide where its going to go. Steve
pointed out that we are not going to have answers until we decide what's
going where. Seminars will probably be at the hotel as that will save the
logistics of shuttle buses; anything big happening through the day will
probably be at the Meydenbauer. Both Tim and Liz would like to see
figures from Kansas City before giving budget numbers to Steve. This was
agreed.

3. GYMANFA - BOB

Bob proposed that the Sunday Gymanfa sessions be split using two
different conductors with a guest conductor to direct the anthem
in the afternoon and evening. The afternoon session would be
directed by Mary Morris Mergenthal and the evening session
directed by D. Eifion Thomas, Llanelli choir director. The
committee strongly advocates using as much North American Welsh
talent as possible therefore, asking Mary to direct was a popular
decision. Mary has had wide experience conducting local Gymanfas
and ysgol gan sessions at Nationals and has served her
apprenticeship - directing the National Gymanfa is the next step
up for her. Tim Dyck was asked to direct the anthem in each
session and agreed. This will be an excellent way of exposing
our own Northwest talent to the National Gymanfa. The special
music in the afternoon session will be performed by Pacific
Northwest artists and in the evening by the Llanelli Male Voice
Choir. Eifion Thomas felt strongly that we should exhibit North
American conductors and had no problem with conducting only the
evening session.

It was proposed and unanimously agreed that we would have two main
conductors and a additional director to direct both anthems. The
afternoon session would be directed by Mary Morris Mergenthal and the
evening session by D. Eifion Thomas. Tim Dyck would direct the anthem in
each session.

Questions - Would Mary and Eifion direct the Gymanfa rehearsals on Friday and Saturday also? Alan sees a difficulty with Eifion's availability as he may not be in town for the rehearsals. It was agreed that it was not critical to have the same people overseeing the rehearsals although it was a real plus in Kansas City as the conductor modified the Sunday hymns on the basis of his rehearsals.

4. ENTERTAINMENT - TIM

Tim has formed his committee consisting of himself, Alan Upshall, Paul Bauck, Gail Wengard and held their first committee meeting on October 26. Entertainment falls into three sections i. Noson Lawen, ii. Folk Concert and iii. the Grand Concert. The theme for the Noson Lawen would be "welcome to the Northwest" and would feature local talent as much as possible. Ideas were - bringing in a folk group from Wales with instrumental capability; Gordon Richie, a harpist from Edmonton; the Vancouver folk dancers; Any suggestions/ideas re talent should give them to Tim. The idea is to show case as much local Welsh talent as possible. Tim's committee will meet on December 7 to discuss things further.

ALAN'S REPORT RE LLANELLI CHOIR VISIT ON NOVEMBER 6

There was a special Llanelli choir committee meeting set up to meet with Alan to discuss the choir's participation in the National in 1994. The proposal was that the choir gives a concert on the Saturday evening and they would be the special music in the evening session of the Gymanfa for a total fee of \$10,000. This was agreed by the choir committee. Alan suggested that some of the choir might want to be in the congregation during the afternoon session which would certainly enhance the quality of the singing. Alan asked them not to bring their own soloists to the concert as we would like to use North American soloists and they had no problem with that suggestion. Alan requested that the program be 60% Welsh and with no negro spirituals and this was agreed. The committee asked if these soloists would also be prepared to tour with them and Alan said he would investigate this. The committee insisted that Alan Rees, the choir accompanist also be the accompanist for the evening session of the Gymanfa. Eifion's fee would be \$250 for the session. Payment for Alan Rees was not discussed at this time.

The choir would be away from home for two weeks and would do about 5 or 6 concerts. They would fly into Minneapolis and do a concert there; fly to Portland and do one or maybe two concerts in Vancouver, WA and would like to break new ground and maybe visit Boise, Idaho and Spokane, WA. Alan agreed to contact people in these localities. He has already contacted John Owen in Idaho who was very excited and he agreed to look into the logistics of a concert there. The choir would be in Seattle for three nights and would need hosting for that time. Alan suggested they find an hotel near the airport for their last night in Seattle and they agreed. They also agreed not to give a concert in Victoria or Vancouver as this might take people away from visiting the National here in Bellevue. Giving a concert at Bumbershoot was also mentioned. Alan has already written a letter to the Bumbershoot committee asking if this would be feasible. Liz said she would talk to her brother about getting acts into Bumbershoot.

Alan stressed that while we would help to set up the tour, we would have no financial involvement outside of the \$10,000. Tour logistics and finance are the responsibility of the choir.

It was proposed to the Llanelli committee that the last song at the grand concert be Psalm 67 composed by Benton Williams which won the first Eisteddfod by mail competition sponsored by Y Ddrych. Benton Williams was the founding conductor of Cor Cymraeg Seattle. The Llanelli choir agreed to perform this and Cor Cymraeg would join them. Our executive committee agreed that they would like to showcase Benton Williams in this way. Finally the Llanelli committee asked if we could find sponsorship money to cover some of their costs - King County?

Alan also contacted Hefin Owen who accompanied the Llanelli choir on its last North America tour for a Welsh television program. Hefin is now an agent, scout, arranger and will fax Alan information regarding versatile Welsh folk groups .

5. PROGRAM COVER - ALAN

Stan Ellis has designed covers for our St. David's Day brochures for several years and was asked to design a cover for our 94 brochure. He has designed three for the committee to look at and to take a vote if possible. One was unanimously chosen with minor modifications. Alan will contact Stan regarding this.

6. JOEL PRITCHARD - LIZ

Joel Pritchard is the Lieutenant Governor for the State of Washington. Alan, Liz and Wyn will meet with him at the Sheraton Hotel in Seattle on Monday, November 16 at 11:00 to request his help in being a figurehead for the fundraising group. Liz stated that we must be clear what our expectations of him are. A one-page report describing the weekend's events should be given to him along with a program from Kansas City. He should be made aware of the strong ethnic makeup of the weekend. We hope to look to him for private money. To show our appreciation for his assistance, he can be the figurehead who welcomes everyone at the Noson Lawen; will sit at the head table during the banquet; receive free tickets to events and a pint of Felinfoel!

Bob also mentioned Senator Dan Evans - perhaps Joel Pritchard can use his influence to get him involved. Brian mentioned John Jones from Kirkland, a past senator. He will get his number.

7. TOURS & SEMINARS - LIZ

a. Tours

Ideas for tours were handed out to everyone at the last meeting. Liz suggested we have four tours only. She will take suggestions and will make another list for next time. Suggestions were: Museum of Flight; breakfast and onto Mt. Rainier; Pike Place Market/ Harbor Tours/Underground Tour; Black Diamond.

b. Seminars

Ideas for seminars: Alan had a list of four speakers from Gwenfyl Jones in Vancouver - he will fax this to Liz. Alan contacted a descendant of Merriweather Lewis in Kansas City - he might be of interest; beer, wine, coffee tasting seminar; genealogy is a of real interest to a lot of people

Alan suggested that in addition to a seminar we have a "poster session" where attendees could pin up their tree for display. We could define the size of the poster and advertise in the papers now to give people time to get their posters ready.

8. VOLUNTEERS - BRIAN

Brian handed out a list of volunteers to date. Some new names were added. One general comment was we need a pool of volunteers and must be careful we don't ask the same people to do too many things. Alan stated he has asked for volunteers in Y Ddolen for making banners and other decorations. We will need lots of banners as we are hoping to drape them around the walls in the hotel and Meydenbauer Center.

9. PROGRAM - WYN

Wyn stated that the program is already on the computer and Mike has started laying it out. We could get some articles in it now e.g. Chairman's welcome. Wyn made an excellent suggestion about having different color paper in the program for events which would make things much easier to find. Wyn said that if her committee gets everything photo ready before printing, that should keep costs down.

10. T-SHIRT DESIGN - ALAN

Alan stated that it is traditional to present the Chairman of the National with a T-shirt from the venue committee. Wyn suggested we have a competition in Y Ddolen for a design. The prize would be \$25. It was decided that we would give guidelines for the design. The shirt should reflect an aspect of the Puget Sound area, be clearly Welsh oriented and recognize National 94. The deadline for the entry would be January 29. The board would meet to review applications early February and the winner would be announced at the St. David's Day celebrations. The board reserves the right not to give the prize. All agreed that white should be the color of the T shirt.

11. AOB

Alan needs to look at the facility costs. He will look at the contract and get back to the Meydenbauer Center. Alan said he had had correspondence from the Hyatt suggesting we up our room bookings. We can do that as long as we don't have to increase the guarantee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 9, at 7:30 at Liz Heath's house in Tacoma (map attached).