



HWYL

WELSH NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A WONDERFUL GIFT!

By Susanna Adkins, *The Legacy Society Journal*

There are so many reasons and ways for us to leave something of monetary value for future generations and programs. From modest bequests to substantial donations, every amount regardless of size adds to the growth of our Endowment Fund. This issue of *Hwyl* presents a brief profile of a recent bequest from Anita Jane Davis.

Ms. Davis, of Welsh heritage, was born in Ebensburg PA, a beautiful mountaintop area in the forest-filled Allegheny Mountains. Here, in the late 18th century, Welsh emigrants left Philadelphia to establish a home. The area was also found to be rich in coal. It was a good place to settle for these early Welsh families and the town grew. Anita Davis surely carried warm memories of Ebensburg to Los Angeles following World War II where she attended USC for a Masters degree in teaching.

A teacher by profession, Ms. Davis was also a life-long lover of animals, particularly those that were sick, injured or orphaned. She was a volunteer at the beautiful Descanso Gardens in La Canada, California, and with her sister, Audrey, was very successful in cultivating and exhibiting camellias.

A few years ago, Anita requested her attorney to include an organization that promotes Welsh culture and heritage in her estate plans. Ms. Davis died in 2011, and recently her estate attorney identified WNAA as a co-beneficiary of the Davis Trust. Jane Davis was interred at Lloyd Cemetery, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. With great appreciation we remember and acknowledge the generosity of Anita Jane Davis.

RESERVE EARLY!

Headquarters Hotel: Fairmont Royal York, Toronto
1-800-441-1414

Group Code "North American Festival of Wales 2013"

Room types: 1 King, 1 Queen, 2 Double beds

Festival Rates: Cdn\$111/night singles and doubles,
Cdn\$141/night triples and quads.

Rates available four days before and four days after the festival, August 26 thru September 5, 2013, depending on availability.

Book on line at www.NAFOW.org.

HEFINA PHILLIPS HONoured BY NwAF

Extracted from an article written by Philip Davies,
NwAF Correspondent

The National Welsh American Foundation (NwAF) has announced that the 2013 Heritage Medallion, its highest honor, will be presented to Hefina Phillips on Friday, August 30th, at the joint WNAA/NwAF Grand Banquet during the North American Festival of Wales to be held in Toronto.



Hefina, *y ferch o Cwmgiedd* (the girl from Cwmgiedd), epitomizes the qualities of a great Welsh-Canadian-North-American. Her passion for all things Welsh, particularly its language and culture, is the ultimate expression of the saying that "You can take the

girl out of Wales, but never, ever, take Wales out of the girl."

Hefina's birthplace is a small village, half a mile from Ystradgynlais, in the Upper Swansea valley. As she grew up there, Welsh language and culture dominated life. Her time at university in Cardiff and Swansea coincided with an exciting resurgence of Welsh culture. Among her teachers was Saunders Lewis, the great Welsh poet, dramatist, historian, literary critic and political activist. Hefina's career and activities as a Welsh-American follows in the footsteps of this mentor.

Hefina has lived in Toronto for 30 years or more and has been at the center of the activities of one of the most vibrant Welsh communities in North America. She is both a Board member of the annual Ontario Welsh Festival and its Past President. As a linguist and an educator she has shared her talents in many forums. Foremost among these is Cymdeithas Madog. As many of you are aware, this is the Institute for Welsh Studies in North America. She currently teaches a "Welsh for Beginners" course at the University of Toronto.

Hefina is a primary "go to" person for Radio Cymru for Welsh language broadcasts by the BBC in Wales. She is a frequent contributor to publications such as *Ninnau & Y Drych*, as well as publications in Wales such as *Golwg* and *Yr Enfys*.

For Hefina the most satisfying form of recognition is the sharing of her passion for all things Welsh with her

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MISSION

The Welsh North American Association strives to preserve, develop and promote our Welsh cultural heritage and traditions, including the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu, and to do all things necessary and appropriate to accomplish these goals.

HWYL is published quarterly by the Welsh North American Association.

Editors: Richard Donohoe and David Matthews
 Direct comments or inquiries to editor@theWNAA.org

friends, audiences and communities. More formal recognition has come her way including the inaugural Gold Medal Award presented by the Ontario Welsh Festival in 2011 and the Robert Morris Award of the Welsh Society of Philadelphia in 2012.

Probably the greatest joy in life for Hefina is being a grandmother. This love extends to children in general. As an active member of Dewi Sant Welsh church in Toronto she leads a wonderful children's Sunday School. Keeping the children's Welsh traditions alive is a passion as is her involvement in all-Welsh activities in the Toronto area.

Make sure that you make a point to seek out and meet Hefina in Toronto. She will be busy conducting Welsh language workshops and maybe you will want to attend one of them. Share the passion and hwyl with her – it will make the Festival all the more memorable for you.

FYI from **IHQ** by Megan Williams

Recently I have had mail returned from the following Affiliated Welsh Organizations; St. David's Society of the Capital District, Welsh League of America, St. David's Society of Rochester and Welsh Society of the Carolinas. If you are able to provide me with current contact information for these organizations, please contact me at 607-279-7402 or email: IHQ@thewnaa.org.

Registration materials were sent out in March; many thanks to those of you who have already registered. We are expecting a very large local turnout for this year's Opening Concert featuring the **Three Welsh Tenors** and tickets will be sold in advance in Toronto. I would encourage all festival attendees and members to get your tickets for this event at an early date in order to avoid disappointment. This can be done online at <http://www.nafow.org> or by mailing registration forms to PO Box 1054, Trumansburg, NY, 14886.

Having visited the Fairmont in April, I can tell you firsthand what a fantastic venue it is, in the heart of the city. There will be a lot of information in the next edition of HWYL which will cover hotel logistics, including parking and travel to and from the airport. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I look forward to seeing you in Toronto!

WNAA'S NEW TRUSTEE

Gareth Howell has thirty years of international management and consulting experience in education, training and capacity building. He worked as an Executive with the Ford Motor Company, was Program Director, UN Management Training Center in Turin, Italy, and has held senior positions at the International Labor Organization (ILO), Geneva, Switzerland. He has also worked at the World Bank both as a project manager



and as a developer of investment policies. Currently, he is an advisor to the US Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Gareth grew up in Wales, in a Welsh speaking home. He is a University of Wales law graduate and was a magistrate in the UK. Gareth has an extensive knowledge of Welsh history, literature, politics and law. He speaks English, French, Spanish and Welsh. He is the current President of the St. David's Welsh-American Society of Washington, DC.

SUPPORT THE NAFOW EISTEDDFOD IN TORONTO

by Alan Upshall

An *eisteddfod* has been held as an integral part of the annual North American Festival of Wales since its introduction in Bellevue, Washington in 1994 and the tradition continues in Toronto, Ontario, in September.

We have settled on a panel of the five competitions that have been quite successful over the last few years: Adult and Youth recitation, Hymn singing, Solo voice open and Solo voice semi professional, the David G. Morris Memorial Award, and this year we have introduced a recitation competition specifically for Welsh learners.

The David G. Morris Memorial Award competition is the highlight since the winner is sponsored by the sum of \$3500, specifically to compete in the Welsh National Eisteddfod. Our David G. Morris Memorial Award winners have been successful in Wales, with past winners Megan Morris and Ian Samways both achieving second place in their competitions, and the 2011 winner, Catrin Davies, winning in Wales. All are remarkable feats



considering the wealth of talent in Wales.

As an additional incentive this year, our adjudicators of the singing awards will be none other than two of the three tenors featured in the opening concert. Singing in front of these artists will be something to remember. Full details of the competitions in Toronto can be obtained from the NAFOW web site, but if there are still questions,

please contact Ian Samways at eisteddfod@NAFOW.org.

Our North American Welsh societies and individuals can keep the *eisteddfod* tradition alive by helping to promote the competitions and by supporting an individual to attend and compete or even by sponsoring one of the competitions. Hold your own local *eisteddfod* and 'support a winner for Toronto' should be the slogan for this year's event. Should any one wish to suggest a new competition, which could be held in future years, we are very open to moving with the times to accommodate new tastes and technology. Please write to Ian at the email address above with your ideas and suggestions.

Come to Toronto and come to the *eisteddfod*. Admission to the competitions and the winners' concert is included in the Festival pass. Come and see the Welsh North American talent.

CYFLWYNO, CADW, CODI

The three "Cs" become the three "Ps": Present, Preserve and Promote Welsh cultural heritage and traditions – this is what we do as the Welsh North American Association. Thanks to wonderful members and friends like you, WNAA is a growing, vibrant organization of over 3,200 members. It receives donations and bequests from you, our members and supporters. At a time when many non-profits are struggling, our treasurer, David Allen, has been consistently reporting a well-balanced budget. We are indeed grateful. Of course, none of this wonderful news would be possible without ongoing commitment and support.

So, please take a moment to consider making a tax-deductible donation this Annual Appeal Season and join in our exciting and continuing goal to create Welsh *hwyl* wherever we assemble together. Join us at this year's North American Festival of Wales, August 29 – September 1, where we will enjoy beauty, hospitality and great *hwyl* in Toronto, Canada. The program is set, and energetic volunteers are already planning and putting together an incredible experience for us.

You may make your contribution through the WNAA website, www.thewnaa.org; just click the 'make a donation' button. Alternatively, postal recipients may note credit card information on the enclosed envelope where indicated or enclose a check made payable to WNAA.

Join us for what will undoubtedly be a thrilling and inspiring experience.



Diolch yn fawr iawn,

Hywel M. Davies

Hywel M. Davies, President

WELSH NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

TRAVEL TO TORONTO BY BUS!

The deadline to book a seat on the bus has been extended to May 31st! **Book now** by contacting Megan Williams at 607-279-7402 or by emailing her at IHQ@thewnaa.org.

The cost is \$125 per person for the round trip. It will depart Thursday, August 29 and return on Monday, Sept 2. Pick-up points will be in Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, PA and Binghamton, Owego and Ithaca, NY.

IS YOUR PASSPORT
UP TO DATE?

A VALID U.S. PASSPORT WILL BE
REQUIRED TO ENTER AND RETURN FROM
CANADA

WELSH CENTRE BREAKS GROUND FOR ADDITION

by Berwyn E Jones, PhD, President
Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project



The Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project in Wymore, Nebraska, ceremonially broke ground on their new archive addition on Sunday, April 7. With the public in attendance, Members of the Board of Directors and local dignitaries turned a symbolic shovelful of earth using a 19th century spade once owned by John E. Jones, local Welsh immigrant farmer and grandfather of Welsh Heritage Project President, Berwyn Jones.

In a lightning-fast fundraising blitz, the Welsh Heritage Project has raised over \$127,000 since Thanksgiving 2012, to create a state-of-the-art Archives Building to be attached to the Welsh Heritage Centre. A generous \$25,000 grant from the Margaret and Martha Thomas Foundation pushed the fund drive over the top. President Berwyn Jones said, "We are eternally grateful to the Thomas Foundation for its continued support of the Welsh Heritage Project and its activities. We are also very grateful to the many, many Welsh Americans, local residents and others, who provided the first \$102,00 toward the project."

The Welsh Heritage Centre has become the national repository for the records and artifacts of Welsh America in the 19th and 20th centuries. The Welsh North American Association, the Welsh American newspapers, *Y Drych* and *Ninnau*, and a number of state Welsh Societies, and numerous individuals have already donated historic papers and artifacts to the Welsh Heritage Centre. The present archives room in the Centre is full to overflowing, and the organization has had to ask potential donors of archival materials to delay further donations until more space is available.

After the Archives Addition has been built and occupied, the space presently devoted to archives in the Welsh Heritage Centre will be remodeled to provide more than double the existing shelf space in the library.

When archival materials are donated, the donation is accessioned by date and donor, and then each individual item in the donation is cataloged. They are then packaged in archival-quality containers such as acid-free tissue paper

for textiles and acid-free cardboard boxes for paper. Many of the items donated have been stored for years in attics and basements, where they have suffered deterioration. Fragile and deteriorated papers are protected with special transparent sleeves to preserve these items for future study of the Welsh American immigration experience and of the Welsh-American community. Many prominent Americans have Welsh ancestry, and many others are the solid citizens who make America the wonderful place it is.

The Goossen Construction Company of Beatrice, Nebraska is the general contractor on this project. The building will be virtually tornado-proof and the HVAC system will maintain constant temperature and humidity conditions for optimal preservation of the items.

COME TO THE LOVESPOON SEMINAR!

Welsh Lovespoons: The unsung tradition of love and beauty

Few symbols of Wales are more iconic than the lovespoon; yet, surprisingly few people know even the most rudimentary details of this rich romantic tradition!

Join two of the world's foremost lovespoon carvers for an engaging seminar tracing the history, the current state of affairs and the future prospects of this exciting art form.

As a good Welsh tradition should be, the lovespoon's story is one of drama, romance, some fierce competition, a few unhappy missteps and a laugh or two!!

Laura Jenkins Gorun and Dave Western are passionate about this dynamic piece of Welsh history and look forward to sharing it with you.

Dave Western, born in Cardiff, now lives in Victoria, BC. He has for the last 20 years dedicated himself to lovespoon carving and his work is found in collections throughout the world. He is the author of "The Fine Art of Carving Lovespoons" and "History of Lovespoons". Visit Dave's website at www.davidwesternlovespoons.com.



Laura Jenkins Gorun lives in Ohio and is of Welsh descent. After working in the Financial Services industry,



she became captivated by the art and concept of Welsh lovespoons. She continues to explore this craft, working from her private studio near Columbus, Ohio. Laura is one of the few female lovespoon carvers in a traditionally male field. Visit Laura's website at www.jenkinslovespoons.com.

Throughout the North American Festival of Wales, you will be able to see Dave and Laura give interactive demonstrations in the Marketplace.

REV. DR. CERWYN DAVIES, GUEST PREACHER

A proud son of Wales, Cerwyn was born in Pembrokeshire, graduated from the University of Wales in theology, was ordained by the Welsh Congregational Church at the age of twenty three and served two pastorates in his native land.

In 1961, while serving as an exchange pastor with a minister from Chicago for three months, Cerwyn was infected with “the North American bug,” a “condition” which, within two years, drew him back to North America to become a minister in the United Church of Canada. That was fifty years ago!

As a teenager he dreamed of becoming either a pilot or an actor, but when Cerwyn reached seventeen, God took over his future, which meant “none of the above!” However, “unto him a child was born” – indeed, two of them – and guess what: the older son became a pilot, and – yes, you guessed it – the younger one an actor! So dad is still living those early dreams, through his sons. After serving the United Church for thirty years, the last fourteen at Dewi Sant, the only Welsh church in Canada, Cerwyn, and his wife and partner retired. But, alas, he flunked his retirement three times, the last being in 2008 when he accepted an invitation, at the age of 80, to pastor six churches in Wales!

He reasoned that if Moses could start a new life at that age, so could Cerwyn! He promised three years, kept that promise and then returned to Canada. So far, two years later, the final retirement is holding!

Along the way, Cerwyn has been president of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, now known as the Welsh North American Association, and President of Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association. He enjoys an honorary membership in Gorsedd y Beirdd. He has been awarded the prestigious Rotary International Paul Harris Fellowship, and he is an honorary Inspector General, Scottish Rite, AF&AM.

In accepting the honour of being the guest preacher at the Sunday morning divine service at this year’s North American Festival of Wales, Cerwyn is looking forward to his fourth time fulfilling this role.



ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE LEGACY SOCIETY?

If ‘Yes!’...Congratulations! You have joined a growing group of WNAA members and friends who are helping

build the future financial strength of WNAA by contributing through wills, trusts and other estate planning opportunities. These gifts add to our expanding Endowment Fund to support the presentation, preservation and promotion of Welsh culture and heritage, for now and into the future.

Ready for an exciting thought? If 1000 members (only about 1/3 of our current membership) planned for a bequest of \$1,000, WNAA, in time, would receive \$1,000,000 for the Endowment Fund! Amazing!

So, if you are considering joining the Legacy Society, please request additional information and have your questions answered. Learn how easy it is to participate! Experience the wonderful feeling and knowledge that you, as well as others, will be able to continue to come together each year to sing, laugh, learn, rekindle friendships and make new friends through this historic Welsh gathering.

Please contact: Dr. Megan Williams
P.O. Box 1054, Trumansburg, NY, 14886
Phone: (607)279-7402
Fax: (877) 448-6633
Email: IHQ@theWNAA.org

SPEAK WELSH? LOVE GOD? Church has a job for you!

The search for a Welsh-speaking pastor

These headlines in the National Post last year perhaps reflect the determination, perseverance, spirit and love of the Dewi Sant congregations that have existed since the church’s inception in 1907. In 1907, with a growing Welsh population in Toronto, John Roberts of Anglesey and William Thomas of Denbighshire formed the first church, ‘a child of the Welsh revival’.

In 1960, the present Dewi Sant church was proudly built and ‘the dream had come true, and a congregation’s faith in God and themselves had been vindicated’.

Over one hundred years have passed since those pioneers gathered but the vitality they possessed is still to be found in today’s congregation.

This year, at the North American Festival of Wales you will have the chance to visit Dewi Sant on the ‘Welsh in Toronto’ tour as well as meet members of the Dewi Sant congregation, very active in this year’s NAFOW. You will also have the opportunity to meet two past ministers of the church, Dr. Cerwyn Davies and Lord Roger Roberts.

At the NAFOW Sunday Worship service, the WNAA will share the offering with Dewi Sant’s mission outreach.





by Lynn B.E. Jencks

The 2012 NAFOW in Scranton gave a huge boost to Welsh learners. Liz Williams, a college student in Pennsylvania, took advantage of this to meet with other NAFOW attendees who are learning Welsh through the on-line Say Something in Welsh (SSiW) course. As a result, friendships began, ideas and inspiration flowed, and in the months since NAFOW, many Welsh learners in the U.S. have taken steps forward as a result of the synergy of NAFOW and SSiW.

It is difficult to learn a language alone. Language is, after all, shared communication that requires a community. I found learning a language with only a book or computer for company a rather dismal, lonely enterprise that quickly drained my enthusiasm. Having realized this after three decades, I attended NAFOW with a firm resolve to meet and connect with as many Welsh speakers and Welsh learners as I possibly could, to end the isolation and to keep me motivated. Upon registering, I learned that there was to be an informal gathering of learners in the Say Something in Welsh course. The novelty of the method intrigued me: it focuses on *speaking* Welsh rather than reading and writing it, the way children learn language through use and repetition in speaking.

From Liz's initial, informal Saturday NAFOW gathering, I went home with tremendous motivation and the contact information for several new Welsh-learner friends who have developed into the one thing my Welsh-learning most needed: a solid community to support, encourage, and motivate me. Eight months later, I have completed fifty lessons of SSiW - ten times anything I had accomplished before! I chat several times a week in Welsh with Skype partners I met at NAFOW. The group of us have continued to meet virtually through Google+ on a weekly basis. I am delighted to say that, thanks to Liz, NAFOW, and SSiW, I am now something I never really thought I would ever be: a Welsh speaker.

We are eagerly making plans for NAFOW 2013 in Toronto. We will have SSiW meet-ups to renew the friendships we made last year and to meet other learners who didn't come to the Scranton gathering. We'll set up a table in the Marketplace to introduce people to Say Something in Welsh and to let people know about the Welsh learner events we will have. I invite any Welsh-speaker or Welsh-learner in any course at any level (or even those who have not yet begun!) who is interested in taking part in Welsh-language events to stop by the table in the Marketplace to say "sut mae!" We would love to meet you!

MEET BETTY CULLINGWORTH NAFOW 2013 VENUE CHAIR

Betty Cullingworth was born in Toronto to Welsh immigrants who were active members of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, resulting in Betty's lifelong attachment to the church in particular and to the Welsh community in general. In 2007, the church celebrated its centenary, a joyous time for all, recognizing the vital role that Dewi Sant has played as a centre of Welsh culture in Southern Ontario.



As a child, Betty participated in the two *eisteddfodau* held each year. The silver dollars awarded in small cloth bags seemed like a king's

ransom. Singing, reciting and piano playing were all part of the syllabus and those were undertaken with joy by Betty and several other children of the church.

Sunday School was held on Sunday mornings at 11, while the bilingual service was at 7 pm. As Betty grew older and more capable on the piano, she would play for the Sunday School hymn singing. That love of Welsh hymnody has remained with her throughout her life. As a conductor of *cymanfaoedd* over the past many years, she has been blessed with memories of many outstanding conductors whose skills and talents helped infuse her with a love of Welsh song.

For over 30 years Betty has been involved with Merched Dewi, the Welsh women's choir in Toronto. For the last 15 years or so she has been their conductor. This choir has been one of the joys of her life, sustaining, as it does, the rich Welsh repertoire of song that is so dear to us all. Betty was also a member of Côr Gogledd America for many years.

She has had a long association with the Ontario Gymanfa Ganu Association and has sat as a Board member for the last several years. Currently she is past president. For a three year period, she served as the secretary of the WNGGA Board of Trustees.

Today, Betty is chair of the Toronto venue committee for NAFOW 2013. She is delighted to welcome the Welsh and friends of the Welsh to join them all in their celebrations at the Fairmont Royal York on the Labour Day weekend.

Thank you Betty for your wonderful and ongoing contribution to those of Welsh Heritage, not only in Toronto and Ontario but also in the rest of North America.

2013 NAFOW TORONTO TOURS

Thurs. Aug. 29th 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Price per person: \$85

Acquaint yourself with Toronto

Canada's largest city is made up of an incredible mix of people from all over the world. Sit back and enjoy the sights as the city's fascinating past and vibrant present unfold. Toronto is a city of vibrant neighbourhoods and thousands of unique corners. Though the CN Tower is the most famous sight, the city rewards the curious with charming secrets at every turn. It's a world within a city, and it's all worth exploring. We'll stop and visit the CN Tower which soars higher than any building, standing at 1,815 feet (553 metres). Nestled near its base is the magnificent Roger's Centre, home to some of our excellent professional sports teams and host to incredible



international shows and concerts. We'll also step on board and relax on our sightseeing boat for a delightful one hour Harbour tour on Lake Ontario, one of the five Great Lakes.

Lake Ontario is actually an inland sea, and as you motor across its waters your Captain will reveal many new and exciting things about the city, Toronto Harbour and the Islands. Our Harbourfront has been completely rebuilt over the years and is now one of the most popular areas of the city. ***Please note that lunch is not included***

Fri. Aug. 30th 8:30 am to 4 p.m. Price per person: \$75

The Welsh In Toronto

Join us as we trace the footsteps of Welsh immigrants who lived, worked and worshipped in Toronto. This tour will visit many sites and landmark buildings with a Welsh connection. It also offers an opportunity to explore the many contributions made by Welsh men and women in the fields of art, architecture, culture, literature and commerce in our great city. We will also visit Dewi Sant Welsh United Church where Meriel Simpson, author of *With a Song in Our Hearts: The First Hundred Years (A History of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church from 1907 to 2007)*, will give us an historical account of the life of our beloved church – the only Welsh church in Canada! A buffet lunch hosted by the Ladies of Dewi Sant will follow during which we will be entertained by Merched Dewi and Friends, a Welsh women's choir from Southern Ontario.

Mon. Sept. 2nd 8:30am to 6 p.m. Price per person: \$130

The Charm of the Niagara Region

Niagara Falls, Maid of the Mist, lunch, Niagara-on-the-Lake

No trip to Ontario would be complete without a visit to Niagara Falls and the surrounding region. Embark on this

fully conducted tour to one of the natural wonders of the world - the Niagara Peninsula. Traveling towards Niagara, around the western perimeter of Lake Ontario, we will show your group the industrial heartland outside Toronto.

Since the early 1820's, millions of visitors have been attracted to Niagara Falls. The Falls are awe inspiring - even more so aboard the historical world famous Maid of the Mist. The tour will cruise right to the base of the American Falls where you will hear the thunder on the rocks and feel a cool mist on your face. But that's only the beginning. Water rushes all around as you soak in the excitement. Enjoy a delicious 3-course lunch overlooking the Falls.



Your tour will proceed to Niagara-on-the-Lake, a charming town considered to be one of the prettiest in Ontario. Travel the scenic Niagara parkway above the Niagara Gorge as your coach winds past luxurious country homes and vinelands. Niagara-on-the-Lake is one of the earliest British settlements in Canada. Enjoy shopping at the quaint craft and specialty shops. This town is lovely and it will transport visitors to a more genteel period in our history. It has also gained a reputation for its mouthwatering fudge so be sure to visit the fudge factory on the main street and sample some flavors. A winery stop with tour and tasting will also be included.

WNAA BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEEDS YOUR HELP

The WNAA is run by a volunteer board of trustees. Board members play a crucial role in helping to maintain the WNAA and are expected to be hands-on throughout the year as well as at the North American Festival of Wales. It's a great opportunity to work with others who believe in furthering the cause of Welsh culture in North America.

The board meets three times a year, once in April and twice in August, the day before the start of the Festival and on one day during the Festival. Board members are expected to attend all three meetings. In order to be nominated to be on the board, you need to have been a member of the WNAA for at least one year.

The WNAA board is a working board and we are always looking for suggestions of people who would be interested in joining. There are many ways to become involved and if you or someone you know meets the above criteria and are interested in being considered for a board position, please contact AdaMae Lewis, Past President. Email: past_pres@thewnaa.org or call: 515-232-0608. Mail-in suggestions can be sent c/o IHQ, PO Box 1054, Trumansburg, NY, 14886.

AIRPORT EXPERIENCE TRAVELING TO TORONTO

by Ada Mae Lewis

In April, I traveled to Toronto for the WNAA mid-year Board of Trustees meeting and would like to share some of my experiences with you. I flew Delta Airlines from Detroit to Toronto's Lester B. Pearson International Airport. On landing, we deplaned down the plane's steep, narrow stairs onto the tarmac. Other airlines arriving from other airports deplane onto a jet bridge, so I don't know if it will happen to you or not. You may want to check it out before you make a firm flight reservation.

If you take the Toronto Airport Express bus from the airport to the Fairmont Royal York you will be dropped off across the street a block's walk from the hotel entrance. This is the bus company's drop-off point. Cabs will drive you to the front door of the hotel. The round-trip fare for the Toronto Airport Express, purchased at the kiosk just outside the airport exit, is \$40 Canadian.



For your return flight to the airport, the bus company and the airlines recommend US citizens arrive 3 hours in advance of their flight because they go through US Customs in Toronto, not in the USA. At certain times of the day, you may not need 3 hours, but at other times, lines are longer.

If you make reservations for the Toronto Airport Express bus through the NAFOW website, there is a 5% discount. Go to the NAFOW page and click on NAFOW Accommodation and then scroll down to Transportation from Airport to Hotel. There are other shuttles to and from the airport, so be sure you get the Toronto Airport Express. You do not need reservations, and the shuttle runs every half hour.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the NAFOW.

