

SAINT PAUL

1987 NATIONAL GYMANFA GANU COMMITTEE MEETING OCTOBER 6, 1986

Present: Mae Anderson, Jack Davis, Eleanor Wylie, Mary Merganthol, Wlater Carlock, Marveen Minish; also present was Ruth Jones, Banquet Chairman

Meeting convened at 7:40 p.m.. Minutes were approved as mailed.

Discussion on Columbus Gymanfa: No direct information from the Columbus committee regarding costs. We have some of their figures: 3,000 for the concert; 2,500 at the afternoon Gymanfa. Thursday there were 139 rooms used at the Hyatt; Friday 353, Saturday 405, Sunday 361 and Monday 11. Here in St. Paul, we have 400 each night in the headquarters hotel and there are reserve rooms in the other hotels.

Discussion followed regarding the ad in Y Drych. Columbus had an ad in each issue. The feeling was that the ad could be slightly smaller, but probably should be in each issue. Betsy Edwards will be asked to set up several ads for the next few issues. Deadline for ads is the 20th of the month; same deadline for copy.

Someone is needed to send copy to Ninnau. The suggestion was made that the Morrisons might do it. Florence Carr was another possible suggestion.

Mae made contact with the Convention Bureau for publicity on St. Paul (Arlene Applebaum). This publicity could be sent to both Y Drych and Ninnau. Mary also suggested a paper for Welsh expatriots called Yr Enfys (The Rainbow), which is published in Wales.

Y Drych needs a picture of the committee some time. Mae will notify the committee members in ample time to schedule this.

Mary reported on progress for the Gymanfa sessions. She met with Iwan Edwards and looked at both Roy Wilkins Auditorium and Ordway. He greatly preferred the Ordway. It does sound possible in terms of getting it. The management was to make a decision today. Mary feels that if we must choose between the song sessions and the concert in the Ordway, we should choose singing sessions in the Ordway. Acoustics are much better in the Ordway.

It was mentioned that labeling of the sections for the singing sessions is very important; those in Columbus were not visible.

Mary made arrangements for an organ with digital computer from Schmidt Music. This is usually used by the Orchestra at Orchestra Hall and we will not know until August 1 if it is available. However, we definitely can have a 2 manual (the Orchestra organ is 3 manual). Cost of the 2 manual is \$400; 3 manual is \$500.

Iwan and Mary are staying in touch. He would like a children't choir for the afternoon singing session. He is willing to help with them. Mary would not like them costumed as they were at the state Gymanfa. That tend to make it rather like some quaint thing rather than a living, vital activity.

There is no further news on the Sunday service.



An emergency meeting was held following the Voices of the Red Dragon practice at Bread of Life Lutheran Church.

Present: Mae Anderson, Walter Carlock, Mary Mergenthal, Kay Thomas, Eleanor Wylie, Jack Davis, Marveen Minish. Audrey McClellan was also present to give suggestions on various folk group possibilities.

The first item of business was the information that the Ordway is probably not available for our needs, though there may be some possibility. The management wishes to book in an activity that would run the entire week. The feeling of the group was that if the Ordway comes to us later, we should negotiate strongly on the price.

The hotel ballroom is already locked in for Saturday evening, so the concert can be there; this was felt to be satisfactory.

We still have first choice in use of the Roy Wilkins Auditorium for the singing sessions. We do not have to sign a contract now unless someone else asks for that night.

Transportation to events was discussed, and it was felt that if buses are necessary for any event, the cost should be included in the price of the ticket.

The second item of business was the probability that Ar Log is not available. Due to an extensive Latin American tour planned, they felt they did not wish to come to the U.S. as well and be away from their families for another extended time. Kay will call the person she spoke to at the Welsh Tourist Bureau who volunteered that the Bureau would pay the full cost for any group we wished to have brought. She would ask if they would pay for Ar Log to come just for the weekend; then Ar Log would be asked if they would be willing to do just that length of time in the States. There is the possibility they could appear on the Prairie Home Companion show the night of the concert. Austin Evans will be authorized to make the offer to Ar. Log November 1. Audrey suggested we try Plethyn if we cannot get Ar Log. They are a folk trio, woman and two men. They do not have the instrumental presentation of Ar Log, however.

Another possible contact is Earl Williams' talent bureau. Also, Ifan Lloyd and Dafydd Edwards would be a possibility.

Austin Evans was also to be asked to ask the Welsh Tourist Board for suggestions for talent for our other activities.



Mae reported that she is still working on financial sponsorship by 3M and others. She was in contact with a man at First Federal who will raise \$3-5,000 as donations from corporations if Ar Log will commit to a couple noon time performances.

Mae supplied Ruth Jones with a copy of a computer printout of a planning guide for the banquet. Possible committee member suggestions: Mary Orr, Diane Evans, Mary Jones, Bob Winters. Kay is Ruth's contact and will contact the various suggested members. Following is the Guide Sheet format for the banquet with information discussed:

Time. . .Sept. 4, 1987, Friday, about 7 p.m.

Location - Main Ballroom, Radisson St. Paul

Master of Ceremonies . . Dr. David Williams asked

Menu. . .Minnesota-grown foods

Entertainment . . group singing?

Speaker - Garrison Keelor?

Pianist. . .Needed for anthems and perhaps group singing

Clergy. . .(invocation/benediction) Many from whom to choose; work with Mary to use greater variety - she will also need some for her sessions

Director. . .(national anthems) Olwen, may have a pianist wishes to use

Printed program/Menu,

- a. cover design ...Betsy Edwards will be "general artist" if we will
- b. words of National Anthems, back cover (get correct words for Canadian anthem)

Tickets

- a. price (\$19.50 Columbus) will be determined by menu
- b. print (Columbus had a two-part ticket)

Facilities needed:

- a. head table, raised platform (who sits there). .David Thomas will give us input here
- b. place cards for head table. .who in St. David's Society does calligraphy?
- c. podium with mike (check in advance for quality of sound)
- d. piano. . .be sure in tune
- e. table decorations
- f. flags (American, Canadian, Welsh)
- g. flowers
- h. individual favors (done in Mpls. in 1978). .suggestions for Mikkelson gift shop wind chimes; Hello Minnesota

Estimated attendance 6-700.

Also suggested that seating for banquet be assigned. Various systems were discussed

Also suggested that both doors of ballroom be used.

Next meeting to be Thursday, November 13, 7:30 p.m. at Mary Mergenthal's home, 2393 Bourne Avenue, St. Paul, with back-up use of Mae Anderson's home, 1918 Johnson Street N.E., Minneapolis, if construction prohibits us meeting at Mary's.



It is felt that Landmark Center is better for the mini-Gymanfa than Town Square. Iwan was impressed with this setting, if we decide to have the mini-Gymanfa.

Walter reported on Dorothy Jones' estimate on the booklet printing. She checked with a woman who does screen printing. \$2,200 for 10 pages and 2 color cover on glossy. 10 sheets on 2 sides equals 40 pages. Quantity of 2,000 booklets. Key lining 5½ x 8½ sheet, \$24 to \$36 per page (breaks down to 2 pages)

Screen prints: 5x7 - \$4.00  
8x10 - \$4.50  
8½x11 - \$5.00

Photostats are \$3, \$3.50 and \$4.00

The general feeling was that we would not get better prices elsewhere. Dorothy Jones will be asked to be present the next time we discuss the booklet and need to make firm decisions.

Mary asked whether ads must be camera ready when they come to us. Ours for Columbus had to be; the feeling is that this should be a requirement for ads.

Eleanor reported that there is not much money. There is not \$300 to go into an interest-bearing account. The Minnesota Gymanfa Ganu voted to give us a second \$250 and the St. David's Society will be approached to meet this.

Kay Thomas was concerned that many of the committees she is responsible for were not filled out. That is being taken care of.

Kay felt that perhaps we should go directly to the Welsh Tourist Board in dealings with Ar Log rather than dealing with the agent in New Jersey. Kay is going to do this.

Austin Evans is returning to Wales in November and we should have a list of things for him to discuss with the Welsh Tourist Board as to what we want.

Suggested use:

- Nosen Lawen - amateur talent
- Banquet - Garrison Keelor to be asked to be the speaker; therefore any music would be minimal; perhaps group singing by those attending.
- Concert - Ar Log/Jan Kimes
- WAY - Bel Canto Singers

Some of the options were discussed. Ar Log - yes. Harpists - no. Fellow who portrays Dylan Thomas - uncertain how he could be used. With 3M sponsorship, we may need to use the Lord Mayor of Swansea or Chairman of the Welsh Tourist Board.

Austin should inquire what size display board the Welsh Tourist Board wishes to bring so that it will be the proper size and we can allocate the right amount of space.

It was requested that Austin be asked to get more information on the man who portrays Dylan Thomas. For example, could he do one of the seminars?