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DEUWCH, CANWN I'R ARGLWYDD
(Come, Sing to the Lord)

August 9th 1994



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[Redacted]
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Welcome to the Thirtieth Annual National Gymanfa Gynu of the National Gymanfa Gynu Association, Inc.
 Sponsored by the Chicago Gymanfa Gynu Association. **TO BE HELD AT CHICAGO, ILL. SEPT. 1, 2, 3, 1961.**

Dear Alan Marshall, First of all let me wish you a very successful 63rd National Gymanfa Gynu Sept. 1st to 4th 1961 and hope your committee will be rewarded by the thousands of North American Welsh who might well cheer you up.

Then I would like to let you have a small donation of \$100 to assist your expenses there.

If your program is still not printed it could be in memory of Edwin, Lyndon, Bessie, Edgar and Betty my wife, 2 brothers and sister in laws who were all attended at these annual events. Don't worry if it's a bit late for the program. Now the bad news, I will not be present at this year's events, not because I am in my 81st year but rather a serious car accident my daughter Catherine encountered on the 6th of November last and still under treatment at extensive Rehabilitation to get this old fellow behind the wheel again. Thank goodness I was driving a 1977 Lincoln in mint condition. No other vehicle was involved just a fire burst travelling at 55 MPH and threw the car down an embankment breaking it. Don't worry I have 2 more similar Lincoln's and can drive around town O.K.

You will see by this letterhead that it's 33 years ago during my Presidency and my founding of the Ontario Gymanfa Gynu Association here in Ontario.

Perhaps I am getting to be one of the oldest - or better still holding membership with the N.S.G. Assn and now N.S.G. Assn around.

Then there is having the self-inflicted Senior Past President of

2) back these associations what ever that mean (The ill has died).
My experience to some extent has been unique
in that I came into the Association almost as
I landed in Canada from Wales in 1947 and
have attended about 32 of the Festivals since.
In 1960 (was it) and during my Presidency we
had a Regional National Gymnopa Game at Seattle
which my family and I drove across U.S.A. to attend.
Part of my experience has been spent in Canada
as Rehabilitation Consultant with the Veterans
Compensation Board and Legal Advocate for all
Commonwealth Exservicemen on Disability and Pensions
for the British Empire Service League and the Legions
of the Empire.

However I left that in 1962 and decided to
seek my fortune in U.S.A. when I became the
Public Relations Director to the Savings & Loan Industry
of California and I am still looking for my fortune,
but enjoy living like a millionaire since a part of
retirement in 1971.

Now at 50 years I am kept busy at all kinds
of things which have nothing to do with making a
fast buck.

These few items will sort of introduce what the
journey through life has been here in North America.

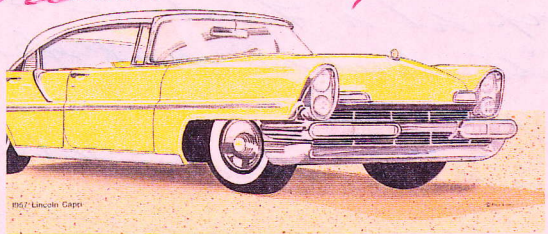
What I have read in the Welsh Papers show a
very real enthusiasm on the part of you and
your committee and the tone of your letter and
your excellent presentation to the National Board.

There are two things I have read in the letter
of Ellis Jones and your letter, Ellis points out
that the real purpose of our meeting is the Gymnopa
Game and all other activities ^{are} ~~and~~ a part of a plus
for attending the weekend events.

In your letter you have stressed all we need
now is a strong attendance and I wish you an
overload of Jamesick Welsh to just drop in
to register and enjoy the fruits of your labours.

Alan I beseech Gods richest blessing for the
63rd National (not forgetting the collection box).

Dauglar Campbell Jones
& Family, Antique & Classic
Car Enthusiast;



Thought you would like to see one of my pre-occupations since retiring in 1971 from the pursuit of the Almighty Dollar. A most expensive hobby. My family and I have owned 45 antique and classic Lincolns, Morris Landrovs (why not they were well known),

Rolls Royces (why not they were well known), Morris Landrovs etc. etc., and 20 Lincolns & Mercurys. Last we bought off the street in Watts and other poor parts of South Los Angeles for \$100 and spent between \$5000 to \$10,000 to refurbish them. Took top roads in U.S.A and Canada drove them across Canada 4 at a time. I have 6 children 3 girls and 3 boys (all life members of W.N.C.G.A and now teaching my grandchildren) Cynthia my daughter was President of N.A.Y and first to sit on the National Board. Why has N.A.Y failed (maybe that is not true) rather the W.N.C.G.A has failed our young people with that old British attitude "Children should be seen and not heard"

The next point as to our young friends is the "Enclawment Fund" Tax Deductible for your donations. This fund was set up for one purpose only and that was to avoid taxation on surplus funds after the National Treasurer had siphoned off 60% of the surplus from the Sponsoring Committee.

Under D.R.S John Roberts a Cleveland Lawyer felt this was the right thing to do, so he felt scholarships could be a good way to put it before the D.R.S and it worked.

The membership Annual & Life over this Association first the National Gymnastic Gym Association of the U.S.A and Canada Incorporated and our only purpose then was to have an Annual Festival over Labor Day Weekend. The Act of

4) Incorporation was like so for a long time it hung in mind like,

There is a story that at one time there were 5000 who showed up at a Festival in Philadelphia (not sure if it's true or not true maybe just someone's imagination).

To broaden out into other States the National had to seek sponsors so that they might have to incorporate in each State of the Union or Provinces of Canada when they meet.

With a Sponsoring Committee, Legally one can say we act in a legal manner.

In those days we had 4 Judges on the Committee, one Accountant - several Lawyers and a few Doctors, Scientists a Court Bailiff, Newspaper Editor and the rest what you could catch.

Ohio was the center of it Youngstown where it had its birth in 1929 with a Picnic to Niagara Falls N. Y., and Train Fall of Ohio, P. A., N. Y., Ill., Ontario, Michigan Welsh thrown in for a 1400 approximate attendance.

Like Topsy it grew and in those days in the 30's to the War years about 2000 showed up and everyone paid their way no registration just a collection at the Gymnasium Game a day event to pay minister, Conductor & Organist (no Depts. any surplus the Secretary used for postage & the hanging in a Song Sheet and eventually a Hymn Book.

Then came the War and it closed down and revived right after the War but in the meantime another event was in process Bangor Welsh Days in P. A., where 2000 or less showed up. We had 2 Welsh (Large Associations) competing

5) for the same Welsh crowd. Some were loyal to Bangor Welsh Day (The big Boss was Albert Foulds a Prison Warden American Born, but a delight to behold and his idea of Wales was very prehistoric and his accent was very "Has Green was my Valley" Hollywood.

The Welsh Gymnastfa Game got back together and incorporated them with and ulterior motive the President's Board of Trustees were almost permanent and their motto until "Death us to Depart our Welsh Position on the Board of Trustees".

The Secretary overstayed his leave about 35 years, something like Nelson (like him has you may like George Bundy with 35, they were not such asset to progress or things Welsh.

In 1957 when I put up the request to sponsor for Toronto for 1959 you weren't allowed to mention the fact until the 1958 event was over, George Bundy had 15,000 on the mailing list 50% were on that heavenly chair and we expended a lot of return to sender letters at 3c a piece, however it didn't cost us as all our mailings paper and postage were free all 4 of them I do think 60000 pieces of mail and half it it returned.

However we used newspapers in every major U.S. City and Canada and 3000 good letters. The result 3000 showed up. We didn't pre register and booked 3 Hotels Royal York 2500 rooms King Edward 300 rooms and had since 210 rooms. Our Registration ran to 2800 and 3600 people attended from Thursday to Monday morning. We took in \$15,000 approx and paid 7500 bills, Rooms were double, no Bangor but a Welsh Play, rason Lawren & the Gymnastfa Game & Church Service Welsh & English and formed

2) The Gwynedd Gwynedd Chair. It was reported to be a wonderful event. Sir Ernest McMillan a World Conductor, Sir Robert Hobbler owner of the Berlin mail, Mrs Len Bruchington, Lady Eaton, President W & William Proctor and Gamble and so on became our sponsors and we had paid for the event over much of the millions that with Dr Evelyn Davies, Bruchington, Williams & Senator Rupert Davies all pledging up to \$7500 the rest was profit. It was the first time the National Treasury had received real money all \$1600 of it and big dollars at that. Not the little value dollars we have today. Believe it or not the Canadian dollar in 1959 was worth 10c more than the U.S.

I am writing this to you as I believe sincerely that Ellis Jones has tried to get the National Board teaching in the right direction but it takes a lot to change people's minds and attitudes. There also was an Eisteddfod association here in North America which George Bundy was Secretary of which folded before the 2nd World War but I did see a chair at a little church (Welsh of course) at Pelham New York which was used at those events in the 1920's and so on. This church still exists but only opens once a year for a Gwynedd Gwynedd. You might say to yourself what has all this got to do with my chairmanship of the 63rd N.Y.G. Association event for 1994 and I will in a crude but no less factual way try to explain it.

- (1) Geography has a big part to do with our festivals, for instance if you stage it at Niagara Falls the chances are a vast crowd will come.
- (2) Wilkes Barre a vast crowd will come.
- (3) Toronto a large crowd will come
- (4) Pittsburgh " " " " } Harrisburg a new venture for 1995 is it about the same as crowds as other places in P.A.
- (5) Philadelphia " " " " }
- (6) Ohio " " " " }

7) Reading your numbers as of June or early July it might not seem all that many but it should be double that number if made by now and last of this month and walk ins should put you well over 1000 and that's a lot of people to make it to the West Coast. All kinds of things keep people and especially young people like back to school a year. The thing we have to do in the years ahead is to plan ahead, maybe to a central location and the National G. G.essen Sponsor its own event with a progressive Committee and a Chairman or Director with special skills in Public Relations and capable of arranging to meet at a major Hotel with enough rooms to accomodate most of those who attend and function facilities large enough to accomodate our functions for free if we can fill the sleeping rooms.

Distances between Hotel and Convention Centers is important.
New York, Washington, Pittsburgh, Toronto, Philadelphia, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Cleveland I believe, Los Angeles all have Ball rooms capable of housing 2000 to 4000 people and we have used them by Halls in walking distance from the Hotel. In any Business wise planning and spending is the secret of profit and surplus in our case.

The next thing I feel strongly about is the Scholarships Program, both the National Welsh American Foundation of which I am a life member in my view is better able to take care of this type of thing.
How many times can you go to the Welsh people for money (not more than once in a while). Right now it is stated we have

8) about 2300 fully paid up life and members of the N. W. G. Assn Inc. and nothing comes from that source in dues as it is mostly life members so it is a dead issue after you have paid your dues or fees for life. Only new members can add to that source. The only income open to the N. W. G. Assn Inc then is Requests, Sale of Song Books and the Surplus Funds handed over by the Sponsoring Committee.

These funds defray the expense of gifts to Secretary, Treasurer, Insurance, Printing and possibly the expenses of Trustees and National Officers. From this source that National Treasurer can soon be depleted.

The Endowment Fund of course depends on donations and National Funds have been voted over the years into this fund. Scholarships are awarded on merit to people who can use them to attend classes in Wales and people from Wales perhaps to come here. Whilst all this sounds good, in reality it is handing out money to people who contribute very little to our National Association (and this is not a narrow view on my part by any means).

I give full credit to those who remained loyal to N. A. G., and the N. W. G. G. Assn to name one I know for sure Mrs Megan Sue Lloyd of Ohio.

All this I say in no way a punitive measure but rather what is real and not fiction. If the N. W. A. G. Inc., had this burden of Scholarships I believe a better and more selective job could be the outcome.

If this should ever come to pass it would free up the N. W. G. G. Assn Inc. to promote & sponsor the Gwynnfa Gann in North America and

in a broader sense prosper our Annual National Welsh Gynnarfa Gannu together with a revival of Welsh associated youth and foster a relationship with local Gynnarfa Gannu activities in every state and Province in Canada.

Here again we have a problem the Welsh of Canada and its this, both the W. N. G. Gannu and the Endowment Fund thereby, together with the W. N. G. Inc as Tax deductible entities under the U. S. Internal Revenue Service for donations to these separate Funds. There is also the possibility under the I. R. S., that American Welsh if they were elected as officers and Board members together with the fact that if Life members and members of the National G. N. G. Gannu also the two other entities could be classified as delectable which in all probability could be eligible to deduct their expenses whilst attending the National Festivals and meetings.

(Now I am not proof positive about this but have been told by the I. R. S. that there is a way to do this with Religious, Charitable and possibly Associations like ours.

Also I know not what is happening in this direction now as either it is not known or people are tight-lipped if it exists. Sappen it is so what a boon it would be if everyone was aware of it.

Here in Canada nothing like this is on the cards that we can even approach the Revenue of Canada unless we had our Associations Incorporated here in Canada. I have written a lot not because I am opposed to anything as critical but rather have we can set our Association on the right road for the turn of this century and betterment for all of our members and future members.

10) I am aware and in contact with things in Wales also London U.K. Welsh and see a lot of changes over the last 30 years, many of the events we once knew are out of business and it includes Churches, the Welsh Festival at the Albert Hall and events like a Nation Song at the same location (A Gymorfa Gana). However I note the Welsh Language is much more alive in Monmouthshire (Gwent) than for almost a 100 years and that a tremendous victory for the Welsh Language.

I believe sincerely that we have a better chance of keeping our Welsh Affairs on the right course. Here providing we begin making the best "Right Turns" and some of the things I have raised in this letter believe with God's help and guidance will lead us in that "Right Direction".

I don't think you need me to suggest that you and your Committee have done a sincere attempt to make the 63rd WNSG Festival a memorable Event and will in my prayers remember to commit your efforts to his care.

What is done is done, the rest is for the future to decide.

In my letter to Ellis Jones I stated that in any small way I'd be happy to put in my 10 cent worth if called upon.

I note in the WNSG Newsletter that there is a suggestion to use Past Presidents of recent service to chair certain Committee events & suggest. It would be a good idea to call from all Past Presidents of the WNSG their views on improvements etc and this could be extended to Past Presidents of Sponsoring Committees. Experience is a great teacher.

Give my regards to all in attendance and a time of refreshment.
Sincerely Douglas Jones

P.S. Perhaps some of the night be useful