

# IOWA WELSH SOCIETY



CYMDEITHAS GYMREIG IOWA

FALL 2019 VOLUME 95

## JOIN US IN COLUMBUS JUNCTION, IOWA

\* OCTOBER 5, 2019 12:00 NOON  
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EDUCATION CENTER  
705 2<sup>ND</sup> ST, COLUMBUS JUNCTION, IOWA  
AND THE LONG CREEK WELSH SETTLEMENT.

### COME EXPLORE YOUR WELSH ROOTS

## FALL MEETING



The Iowa Welsh Society invites its members and non-members to a Fall Event on October 5, 2019. This

event will be held in the Education Ctr of the United Presbyterian Church in Columbus Jct Iowa. Board meeting will begin at 10:00 am. At noon members and non-members will enjoy a Te Bach (light lunch). This is a chance to taste a variety of foods from Welsh recipes prepared and served by local Welsh families.

IOWA WELSH SOCIETY THE  
PURPOSE OF THE IOWA  
WELSH SOCIETY IS TO  
FOSTER INTEREST IN THE  
CULTURE, HISTORY AND  
LANGUAGE OF WALES.....

**Note:** Board members please plan to attend the board meeting 10:00 – 12 Noon.

Afternoon activities will include time to get to know one another, a short program about the Long Creek Welsh Settlement followed by a tour of the local Welsh area. Highlight of the tour will be a "Daylight Cemetery Walk." There you will learn interesting stories of some of the early Welsh settlers narrated by their own family descendants.

### 2019 OFFICERS/ BOARD MEMBERS

#### President

Margaret Patterson

#### Vice President

AdaMae Lewis

#### Treasurer

Jenifer Mercer-Klimowski

#### Membership Chair

Sharon Rees

#### Secretary

Wendy Knowles

#### Historian

Ruth Hall

#### Webmaster

Danny Davis

#### Venue Organizer

Richard Phillip

#### Resources/Websites:

[iowa Welsh Society.org](http://iowa.welshsociety.org)

#### Facebook Pages:

[iowa Welsh Society](#) and  
[Dragon, leek and Daffodils of SE Iowa](#)

#### Ninnau Newspaper:

<http://www.ninnau.com>

**UPDATE: OLD MAN'S CREEK WELSH CHURCH SUSTAINS DAMAGES FROM TORNADO**

FIRST WELSH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH on OLD MAN'S CREEK near Iowa City, Iowa

Reported by Conni (Tudor) Lynch, President of the Welsh Cemetery Board

"As you may or may not know, our little Church was somewhat in the path of a tornado, which went through Southwest Iowa City and surrounding areas. It did damage along Sharon Center Rd SW. Luckily we (the church) were not horribly damaged, but enough that there are quite a lot of repairs needed to be done. Those are on top of ones that were already needed. The worst thing was, it tore the electric wires off the corner of the building where it connects to the utility pole across the road. And with all the rain, we got some mold in the basement. Also there was some leakage in the roof, which requires work on the Sanctuary ceiling. The steeple lost some shingles and had some damage to the base, so was leaking also. These things have been addressed well enough to avoid further damage, but are temporary fixes. Meanwhile, two of our main members Art and Janice Hining (Art is Moderator, Janice is Secretary/Treasurer) have been out of commission due to health issues. So, my daughter, Kelli Rozinek has stepped up to deal with the insurance company and get bids on the various other repairs. Because the weather had been so uncooperative for so long, all the contractors are not only behind schedule, but are reluctant to take on "repair" work when so much new construction is going on everywhere around us! So, as of now, we are pretty much at a stand-still. Hopefully when winter sets in we will have better luck getting inside work done. Although we were hoping to get things finished up by winter, it isn't looking likely."

THE PURPOSE OF THE  
SOCIETY IS TO ENCOURAGE  
FELLOWSHIP BETWEEN  
PEOPLE OF WELSH DESCENT  
AND THOSE INTERESTED IN  
WALES AND WELSH LIFE....

**NAFOW News:** The 2019 North American Festival of Wales recently held in Milwaukee WI was a huge success. This was the 90<sup>th</sup> year of The Festival. It was held from Thursday, August 29 through Monday, September 2, 2019. From the Opening Concert on Thursday, the Grand Banquet & presentation of the coveted Heritage Medallion on Friday, the many seminars and Eisteddfod competitions during Friday and Saturday, the Grand Concert Saturday night, the two sessions of the National Gymanfa Ganu on Sunday, and multiple tours of the Milwaukee area, there was little time for relaxing. Meeting old and new

friends was a highlight. On Friday night, *Calennig* provided some of the evening entertainment. They are a lively group of musicians from Wales. Sponsors were Leslie Wood and AdaMae Lewis. Thank you, AdaMae for bringing this group to the Festival stage. Also of special note, Welsh Society member, Gwen Foulkes, was a member of the seventy member *Cor Cymry Gogledd America* choir. The choir, conducted by Dr. Mari Morgan consisted of nearly seventy members from across North America. Powerful voices raised the roof of the Helen Bader Concert Hall as the choir presented beautiful Welsh songs including pieces that were specially written and sung in celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. Thank you, Gwen, for your dedicated involvement in the choir during the past months as you prepared for the concert. The group *Three Welsh Tenors* from Wales also performed during the Grand Concert. Special thanks to the Joyce McCullough family for the annual legacy funds left with Festival in memory of their mother.

THE PURPOSE OF THE  
SOCIETY IS TO PRESERVE THE  
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN-  
WELSH IN IOWA AND TO  
ESTABLISH CONNECTIONS  
WITH OTHER WELSH-  
AMERICAN  
ORGANIZATIONS.

Iowa

with

the

**NAFOW** continued

Sunday's Gymanfa Ganu was held in the beautiful historic Immanuel Presbyterian Church. Two sessions (afternoon & evening) drew record crowds to the event conducted by Dr. Mari Morgan. *Cor Cymry Gogledd America* provided additional pieces along with winners from the adult Eistodded competitions.

Attending from our Iowa Welsh Society were Gwen Foulkes, AdaMae Lewis, Devon Lewis, Joyce McCullough family members (Donna, Doris, Deborah, Denise, Dianne, Shirley), Elaine Prom, Margaret Patterson and granddaughter Brittany Hogue.

In planning for the 2020 North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW), please stay in touch with the website: <http://thewnaa.org/index.html>. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania will be the host city and promises to provide a stellar Festival.

**IOWA WELSH SOCIETY SUMMER MEETING**

July 20, 2019 at the John L Lewis Museum in Lucas, Iowa. Board members met in the morning prior to the afternoon program. Thirteen members and guests enjoyed lunch together. Many browsed through the museum's many artifacts and documents connected to the coal mining in local Iowa mines. The museum highlights John L Lewis' career in organizing unions to ensure safety of the miners was addressed locally and across the nation. Enfys McMurry provided the group with historical comparisons of mining conditions in Wales and throughout America. Enfys also encouraged each person to identify a little bit about themselves. This led to lively discussions as we learned more about each other. During our time together, we were encouraged to stay in touch with news about Wales and American Welsh through updates on social media, Ninnau publications, newsletters, etc. See a partial listing on Page One. A few members drove out to Fry Hill Cemetery where Welsh miners were buried including those who lost their lives in the local mines. Thank you to volunteers from the Museum for providing meeting space as well as guiding us through the museum and Fry Hill Cemetery.



John L Lewis Statue



Sharon, Becky, our Guide, Wendy, AdaMae



Fry Hill Cemetery

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**Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project (GPWHP) update**

During our July meeting, AdaMae Lewis reported that GPWHP continues to solicit funds for the operation of the museum in Wymore, Nebraska. They are seeking funds through trusts, donations, endowments, memberships, beneficiaries as well as contributions from visitors to the museum. Gwenith Closs Colgrove and others from Wymore had a staffed table at the Marketplace during NAFOW weekend. AdaMae continues to serve on the Advisory Board of GPWHP. Go to their website at: [greatplainswelshheritageproject.org](http://greatplainswelshheritageproject.org) for more information about the museum and the archives housed in a special climate-controlled room.



**NOSON LLAWAN**

**Calennig entertains at NAFOW**

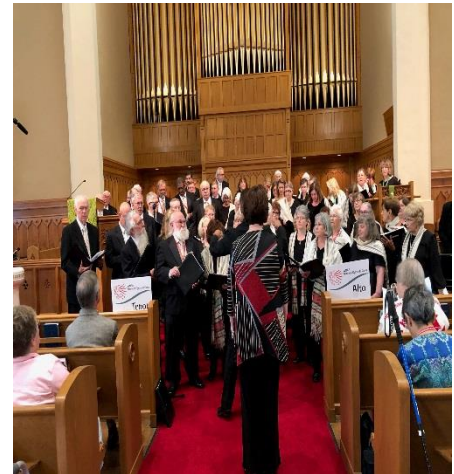
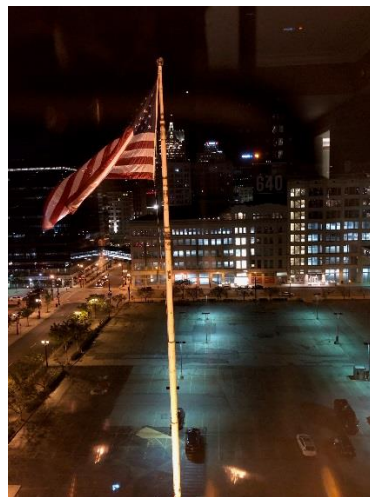


**Immanuel Presbyterian Church**

**Beautiful stained glass windows**



**Gwen Foulkes & Margaret Patterson**



**Cor Cymru Gogledd America Choir**



**Additional Summer Photos**