

Report of Cincinnati 2006 Venue Chairperson

So far preparations are going well for the 2006 NAFOW. I have visited the hotel and am very impressed with the facilities that they will be providing us. The Hall of Mirrors will be acoustically and architecturally the finest hall we have had for a Gymanfa Ganu in many years. Our members and attendee's can start reserving their rooms one year in advance of the event and I have instructed Ms Cheryl Schmitt to ensure that their reservations staffs is ready to accept reservations right away after Orlando.

The program development team has done a great job in arranging all of the artists that we need for the program. With this already done we can now start looking at all of the other items that we need to work on such as seminars, eisteddfod, tours if we would like them, children's activities and any other ideas we can come up with. A careful watching of the new registration system in Orlando will be required to see if any problems arise with numbers at the seminars and other included activities.

On the local volunteer front we have not had a very enthusiastic response from the local St David's society in fact, they are a little put off by the fact that they were not consulted before deciding to bring the NAFOW to their city. That being said I do have a list of 6 people who have volunteered and there has been an offer from the local president to assist in planning a tour, the tour suggestion that I have is that Shandon, Ohio's first Welsh Settlement and home of the Welsh Congregational Church be offered as one of the tours. Governor Bebb Preserve about 4 miles West of Shandon includes the cabin that the Governor (the first Welsh Governor of Ohio) was born and lived in. This could be part of the Shandon tour. I would be willing to be a contact person for that tour if the CVB would like to contact me. I can get local Shandon people involved in hospitality for this tour. Last time the local Church (founded by the original Welsh settlers and still with ties to LLanbrynmair) provided lunch for visitors. I suggest we discuss this in Orlando and if we decide to go ahead assign a person to work with the local tourist board who would be happy to help us set up other tours as well.

In conclusion I feel we are off to a very good start with the organizing of the event and with hard work over the next year we will have another successful NAFOW to celebrate.

Sincerely

Ian Morris
Venue Chairperson