

The Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association, Inc.
2004 Annual General Meeting
Grand Ballroom, Adam's Mark Hotel, Buffalo, NY
09:00 a.m., Saturday, September 4, 2004

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1. **Call to Order, Opening Prayer.** The meeting was called to order by President Lynn Owens-Whalen and the opening prayer was given by Rev. Richard Price Baskwill.
 2. **Review of Agenda.** A spelling correction was noted for Item 9.1. Should be "Cymru". It was moved and seconded (Roy Morris/Joan Owen Mandry) that the agenda be adopted. Carried.

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Kara Lewis was asked to address the membership before returning to the Child and Youth Activities, of which there were many this weekend. She said it was important to inspire the youth to learn more about Wales and their Welsh heritage. She also hoped they could establish links with other Welsh organizations. President Lynn Owens-Whalen spoke of WNGGA support and said we were appointing a Youth Initiative Person. indicated that Kara had been appointed as chair of the Youth Initiative Committee and that the work she and her committee was doing with youth in Buffalo was inspiring. Kara described activities such as reading Welsh stories, playing Welsh games etc.

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Past President Alan Upshall gave an update on the legal situation and announced that the WNGGA Executive had decided to launch a suit to recover their legal costs. The total legal costs to date exceed \$25,000.

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3. **President's Address.** Lynn Owens-Whalen reviewed the year and indicated that the continuing legal issues had an impact on the financial and personal resources of the organization. The move of the International Headquarters from Minnesota to Michigan was a challenge, but seems to be working out well. She said we are still making changes in the process of the WNGGA assuming more responsibility for the Festival of Wales. However quality programs need money and we don't have a lot at the present time. We recognize that we need to raise money, work with other groups and organizations, use publicity to spread the word, and share the workload with members of the WNGGA. Re: The Lawsuit, the Executive Committee decided that we would seek recovery of court costs through the courts.
 4. **Minutes of August 30, 2003 Annual General Meeting, Richmond, British Columbia.** The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were reviewed. (Copy on file with Official Minutes) It was moved and seconded (Robert Hughes/Joan Owen Mandry) that the minutes be approved. Carried.

1 **5. Financial Report.** In the absence of Huw Williams, John Ellis presented the report. (Copy on
2 file with Official Minutes). It was moved and seconded (Sheila Pepper/Glenson Jones) that the
3 report be accepted. Carried.
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5 **6. Audit Report.** John Ellis presented the report from auditor David C. Anderson. (Copy on file
6 with Official Minutes) It was moved and seconded (Glenson Jones/Trudy Howells Murphy) that
7 the Auditor's report be accepted. Carried.
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9 **7. Committee Reports.**

10 **7.1 Nominations Committee/Elections.** Alan Upshall announced that we had 77 Individual
11 members and 2 representatives of Associated Welsh Organizations in attendance, for a total
12 of 79 eligible votes. He then introduced the nominees for election to the Board of Trustees.
13 US EAST. There are 3 openings as Jan Briggs, Trudy Howells Murphy and Robert Roser
14 had completed their terms. The Board nominates all three for re-election. It was moved and
15 seconded (Roy Morris/David Mandry) that nominations be closed.
16 US WEST. There is 1 opening but the Nominating Committee was unable to find a
17 candidate. There were no nominations from the floor so the position remains vacant.
18 CANADA. There is 1 opening and the Board nominates Ian Morris. It was moved and
19 seconded (Roy Morris/Cerwyn Davies) that nominations be closed. It was then moved and
20 seconded (Jack Lewis/Cerwyn Davies) that the candidates be acclaimed. Carried.
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22 **7.2 Constitution Committee.** President Lynn Owens-Whalen said that although we did not
23 have a chair for this committee, the work had been continuing and that suggestions may be
24 made next year.
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26 **7.3 Scholarships and Grants Committee.** Scholarship Chair Myfanwy Davies presented her
27 report (copy on file with Official Minutes). She announced her retirement from this position
28 and thanked the membership for their support. It was moved and seconded (Myfanwy
29 Davies/Ian Morris) that the report be accepted. Carried.
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31 **8.0 International Headquarters Report.**

32 John Ellis presented his report. Copy on File with Official Minutes. He said his first
33 year had been challenging, but fun. He reviewed the membership numbers, publications
34 information and Annual Fund donations. It was moved and seconded (Don Briggs/Cerwyn
35 Davies) that the report be accepted. Carried.
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38 **9.0 Greetings from ex officio groups.**

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40 Myfanwy Davies gave an update on the Buffalo Festival of Wales. She announced that there
41 were approximately 700 registered attendees. While it had been a challenge to organize the
42 event from afar, she felt that the weekend was going well.
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45 **9.1 Cymru a'r Byd.** Bryan Jones brought greetings on behalf of the group. He announced that
46 some changes were taking place at the National Eisteddfod and invited all in attendance to

1 visit next year in North Wales. He also encouraged everyone to subscribe to “Yr Enfys” and
2 to support it by sending articles for publication.

3 **9.2 National Welsh American Foundation.** President Olwen Joyce Anderson brought
4 greetings from the group, thanked us for a successful Banquet, and mentioned their
5 scholarships.

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7 **9.3 Women’s Welsh Clubs of America.** President Nanette Wilde brought greetings, updated us
8 on the Home for the Aged, and mentioned their scholarship program.

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10 **10. Credentials Report.** This had already been taken care of during the elections.

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12 **11. Old Business.** None.

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14 **12. New Business.** None.

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16 **13. Recognition of Retiring Trustees and Officers.** President Lynn Owens-Whalen made
17 presentations to Sheila Pepper, Myfanwy Davies, Alan Upshall and Huw Williams (in absentia)
18 and expressed the thanks of the Board of Trustees and the WNGGA membership for their
19 contributions.

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21 **14. Announcements.**

22 **14.1 Orlando 2005.** Jan Briggs and Trudy Howells Murphy gave an update on the Orlando
23 planning and invited everyone in attendance to attend the Festival of Wales in Florida.

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26 **15. Closing Prayer; Adjournment.** The closing prayer was given by Rev. Richard Price Baskwill.
27 Ian Morris moved adjournment.

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30 Respectfully submitted,

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32 Myfanwy S. Davies, Secretary
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36 Items on file with Official Minutes:

- 37 2.0 Agenda
- 38 4.0 Minutes of August 30, 2003 Annual General Meeting
- 39 5.0 Financial Report
- 40 6.0 Audit Report
- 41 7.3 Scholarships and Grants Report
- 42 8.0 International Headquarters Report