

Calgary Welsh Society: Casino 2011.

The use of casino money to help fund voluntary organizations in Alberta and other provinces is a well-established practice. The money that was obtained by the hard work of the Calgary Welsh Society executive and its members in the last casino event has enabled the Calgary Welsh Society to be very active over the last few years.

With these funds, CWS has been able to: contribute to many worthwhile causes such as the Morpheus Theatre group, Rosebud School of the Arts, and the Kiwanis; enjoy first-class concerts and entertainment such as the Toronto Welsh and Cor Godre'r Aran Male Voice Choirs; produce its own 'Spring Is Singing' concert; purchase items for the use of the society such as the portable Yamaha keyboard and Welsh Dress costumes; provide wonderful teas for Senior members; pay for transportation to several out of city events such Ponoka's Gymanfa Ganu, and provide funding for the involvement of some members in Cwrs Cymraeg and NAFOW workshops and meetings. It has also paid for the rental of venues for meetings, festivities and dinners and for 'professional' entertainment.

We want such opportunities to continue. The Calgary Welsh Society has been slotted for a 2011, 4th quarter casino. The exact date has yet to be confirmed.

In order to make this event successful, the Calgary Welsh society requires many volunteers. We need a Casino Organizational Chairperson and around 40 helpers [and a few spares] to work in four 10 person shifts over the 2 day casino.

Are you willing to help to ensure that the active programming of the Calgary Welsh Society can continue?

Car Treasure Hunt! Interested?

One or two members have expressed interest in holding a car treasure hunt! Are you interested in participating?

A 'car treasure hunt' is a fun event in which you follow and try to solve clues that take you, by car,

from point to point to a final destination. In the case of the CWS, the 'treasure hunt' would not be an event that depends on speed or 'first to finish'! It would probably end at a park where an informal picnic would take place.

If you have any experience and/or organizational skills in such an event, please contact David Matthews. Any help in this area would be greatly appreciated!

June may be the perfect month to hold such an event!



Calgary Welsh Society, Cymdeithas Cymreig Calgary

January 2011 Newsletter

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Happy New Year from your Executive!

Our society enjoyed many excellently attended events in 2010! In December, sixty members were present for a delicious Christmas dinner at the Blackfoot Inn followed by carol singing and entertainment provided by the Calgary Arts Academy Adult Choir. 2011 got off to a good start on January 11 with fifty members and friends enjoying our eagerly anticipated evening at the Pumphouse theatre for Morpheus Theatre's production of Dylan Thomas' Under Milk Wood. An added bonus to the excellent production was entertainment by a young harpist friend, Ceri Jones from Stettler.

We are eagerly anticipating another fun filled St. Dwynwen's Day celebration on January 22 followed by our annual St David's Dinner on February 26. As you will see elsewhere in the Newsletter, planning is in place for other exciting events in the months to come.



Over the past few years it has been possible to hold many of our events as we used our casino funds. Now our casino account is almost used up, so we are pleased to report that we have been granted another casino in the fourth quarter of 2011. Planning gets underway in earnest about six months before a casino, so I'd urge you to contact us showing your willingness to help. We need a casino chairperson in place to begin the process. Please consider fulfilling that role.

Thank you so much for all your support, help and encouragement. Please contact any member of our Executive with your questions, comments or suggestions.

Dymuniadau Gorau,
Elaine Westlake.



Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendars!!

February

St David's Day Dinner Celebration

Come and join us for the 2011 St David's Day Dinner celebration which will be held at the Blackfoot Inn on Saturday, February 26th. Doors will open at 5:30pm. Cash bar. Entertainment will be provided.

April

2011 AGM

This year's AGM will be held on Saturday, April 30th at the Irish Club. Please attend this important event. The Calgary Welsh Society belongs to you, its members, and can only operate successfully and thrive with your participation and input. There will be food and entertainment.

May

Spring Is Singing Concert

On Sunday evening, May 15th, the Calgary Welsh Society's will hold its second production of 'Spring is Singing', a selection of music from the world of Welsh music, popular musicals and opera. This year, audience participation, in the singing of Welsh favorites, will be sought in the second half of the program. The concert will take place at Christ Church.

July

Annual Family Picnic

The annual Calgary Welsh Society 'Family Picnic' will be held at Lake Bonavista on Sunday, July 24th. Thankyou Pam and Ross for booking! More details in next newsletter.

Cwrs Cymraeg: July 17-24th at the Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia.

Information regarding possible funding support can be found on the next page of this newsletter.

August

Ponoka Gymanfa Ganu

It is hoped that the Calgary Welsh Society will run a bus for members and friends to Ponoka's Gymanfa Ganu.

September



North American Festival Of Wales: September 1-4th in Cleveland Ohio. The latest information suggests that geneology will be a focus with several workshops devoted to the interest. Attend to help determine whether the Calgary Welsh Society can host a NAFOW in Calgary!

Information regarding possible funding support can be found on the next page of this newsletter.

Welsh Word of the Month

CARIAD = LOVE

[thinking of St Dwynwen]



Two important Welsh Cultural events will take place in 2011. We invite you to apply for funding to attend:

1. Cwrs Cymraeg Dyffryn Shenandoah July 15 – 24, 2011 Winchester, Virginia, US

Cymdeithas Madog, (www.madog.org), the Welsh Studies Institute in North America, is proud to present the 35th annual Cwrs Cymraeg (Welsh Course). The course emphasizes the spoken language with classroom instruction at seven levels ranging from absolute beginners to advanced. Some of the instructors will be brought in from Wales. Evening events such as folk dancing, singing, a quiz night, a film night, a Noson Lawen and an Eisteddfod will be held. The final costs are due to be published in January 2011. Based on the past few years, this will be approximately US\$ 850 – US\$ 1,000. This includes tuition, accommodation and food. Travel costs to Virginia would be additional.

2. North American Festival of Wales September 1 – 4, 2011 Cleveland, Ohio, USA

The Welsh National Gymanfa Association of North America (www.wngga.org) proudly presents the 80th annual North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW). This cultural experience includes events designed to stimulate interest in Wales, its culture and heritage. They include musical performances, lectures, language instruction, tours informal singing, Noson Lawen evenings, displays and demonstrations as well as an opening concert and a grand concert to end proceedings. Many of the performers are brought over from Wales. In the 2010 NAFOW at Portland, Cor Godre'r Aran Male Voice Choir performed before coming to entertain us in Calgary.

Festival Headquarters this year will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cleveland City centre. Room cost will be \$115 per night. Rooms can be reserved now and Registration materials will be available in March 2011.

Application Information and Process

ALL applicants for Cwrs Cymraeg or NAFOW have to be paid up members of the Calgary Welsh Society as of February 15, 2011. Applications will be open to all members and will be placed in order of merit by the impartial selection committee. Priority will be given to members who have not previously been approved for funding. Successful applicants will receive a maximum of \$1,500 on presentation of receipts to the CWS Treasurer after the course is completed.

If you are interested in applying for funding for either Cwrs Cymraeg or NAFOW please send a one page application to our secretary. Your letter should address the following:

- reasons why you wish to attend the event you have selected,
- the potential benefit to CWS,
- the contributions you have made to Calgary Welsh Society,
- your length of membership in the Calgary Welsh Society.

The Calgary Welsh Society Executive hopes that members will take advantage of the opportunity to attend Cwrs Cymraeg 2011 or NAFOW Cleveland 2011. We will be applying to the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission to allow us to use casino funds to sponsor some members to attend these events. *Names of successful candidates will have to be included in our application, hence the need for early applications.*

Please send applications to:

CWS Secretary Kathleen Johnson. [katehome@shaw.ca]

Address: 7 Arbour Cres SE, Calgary AB T2J 0X5

Applications have to be received by Kathleen NO LATER than February 15, 2011

We hope to inform candidates of the selection committee decision by March 1, 2011.

NB All successful candidates will be required to give a written or oral presentation to the Calgary Welsh Society after completion of Cwrs Cymraeg Dyffryn Shenandoah, 2011 or the NAFOW Cleveland, 2011.

