



St. David's Newsletter



St. David's Society of Pittsburgh

January 2018



Volunteers at the Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House in Dec. 2017

Festivities Planned for St. David's Day 2018

The New Year is here, which means our annual slate of St. David's Day activities is just around the corner! If you are anywhere near downtown Pittsburgh this St. David's Day (March 1), make sure you look up at the **Gulf Tower** in the evening, where the building will be lit up in red, white and green in honor of the Welsh.

The festivities recognizing the patron saint of Wales will continue on Friday, March 2, when our 19th Annual **St. David's Day Pub Crawl** will take place in downtown Pittsburgh. The next day, March 3, will be our traditional **Daffodil Luncheon**, where members and friends can join together over delicious food and Welsh cakes to celebrate this special day.

Read on for the latest news from the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh, including upcoming events and festivals, membership information and more! We are especially pleased to welcome our 2018 Board of Directors for another term, with Rev. Robert Dayton returning as president, Jessica Skye Davies joining as vice president, and JoAnn Evans serving as secretary. Please see page 4 for a full list of directors and officers. Thank you to all who attended events in 2017 or followed along with our activities from afar. We look forward to all that 2018 will bring as we celebrate Wales in the Pittsburgh region!

Upcoming Events

January 30 – Welsh Book Club, 6:30 p.m., Panera Bread, 136 Bakery Sq. Blvd. (Bakery Square)

February 22 – Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Claddagh Irish Pub, 407 Cinema Drive (South Side)

March 1 – Annual St. David's Day Run with the Hash House Harriers, 6:30 p.m., location TBD

March 2 – St. David's Day Pub Crawl, 5-11 p.m., beginning at Olive or Twist, 140 6th St. (Downtown)

March 3 – St. David's Day Daffodil Luncheon, 12 p.m., Pine Community Center, 100 Pine Park Dr. (Wexford)

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day Parade, 10 a.m. (Downtown)

March 21 – Welsh Language Classes resume, 7-8:30 p.m., Cathedral of Learning (Oakland)



2018 Daffodil Luncheon

Our annual Daffodil Luncheon to celebrate St. David's Day will be held Saturday, March 3 at the Pine Community Center, located at 100 Pine Park Drive, Wexford PA 15090. We look forward to welcoming back Cracked Egg Catering for another delicious menu of Welsh fare:

<i>Starters:</i>	<i>Potato and Leek Soup</i> <i>Spring Salad with Cucumbers</i>
<i>Entrees:</i>	<i>Sliced Roast Beef</i> <i>Glamorgan Sausage (vegetarian)</i>
<i>Sides:</i>	<i>Smashed Rutabagas</i> <i>Roasted Red Potatoes</i>
<i>Dessert:</i>	<i>Welsh Cakes</i>



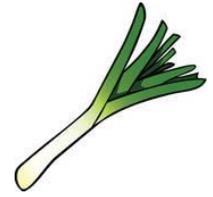
Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. Parking is available in the community center's large parking lot.

Please complete and mail in the form at the end of this newsletter to reserve your place. All RSVPs are due by **February 24**. For more information, contact Robert Dayton at 724-295-4421.

Directions:

From the South — Travel north on I-279, which merges onto I-79, and take the WARRENDALE EXIT. At the traffic light at end of ramp, turn right and proceed to the next traffic light (Warrendale Road & Rt. 19); continue straight across Route 19 staying on Warrendale Road aka Red Belt. Follow Warrendale Road (Red Belt) to the second stop sign (currently installing a new traffic signal so this may be a light) and turn left, under turnpike overpass, and travel up the hill about 1 mile to Pine Community Park on right. Turn right onto Pine Park Drive to the entrance of the Pine Community Center.

From the North — Take I79 or the PA Turnpike until the Cranberry Exit. Travel south on Route 19 to Warrendale Road (Red Belt). Turn left on Warrendale Road (Red Belt), follow Warrendale Road (Red Belt) to the second stop sign (currently installing a new traffic signal so this may be a light) and turn left, under turnpike overpass, and travel up the hill about 1 mile to Pine Community Park on right. Turn right onto Pine Park Drive to the entrance of the Pine Community Center.



19th Annual St. David's Day Pub Crawl

Join us once again for our St. David's Day Pub Crawl on March 2. The 19th annual crawl, organized by Blaine Popp in honor of St. David, will begin at "Olive or Twist" on Sixth Street across from the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. The group will start gathering around 5 p.m. and the crawl will continue on into the night. We will follow a similar route as last year's crawl, stopping by pubs throughout Market Square and downtown Pittsburgh.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details about this year's route, or contact Dave Williams at 724-544-1777.

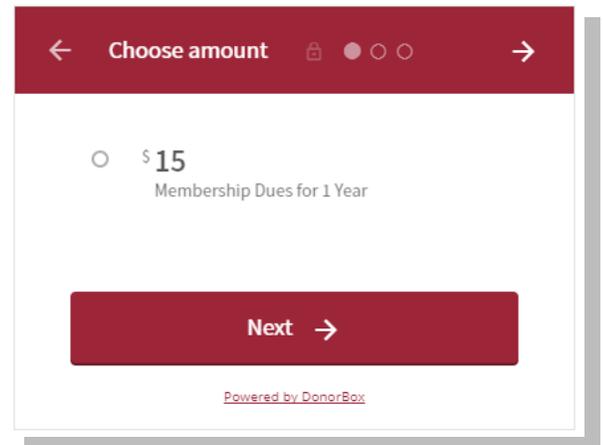
2018 Membership Dues: Online Pay Available

As we reflect on another year of exciting Welsh programming in the Pittsburgh area, we would like to say thank you to our members who contribute in so many ways to the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh. Please keep an eye on your mailbox for your 2018 dues renewal notices, which will be mailed to you along with a membership card.

Starting this year, members now have the option to pay their annual dues online by credit card. Please visit www.stdavidsociety.org/membership and complete the payment form to renew your membership for the 2018-19 year. You may also continue to send in a check by mail.

Some of the activities your membership dues will help us continue include:

- welcoming artists and cultural representatives from Wales
- annual Gymanfa Ganu
- participation in local folk/cultural festivals
- spring Daffodil Luncheon
- Welsh language class
- digitizing the Welsh history in Pennsylvania
- Welsh Book Club
- proud support for the North American Festival of Wales
- Welsh dance classes



If you do not receive your dues renewal notice in the mail, or have any other questions about your St. David's Society of Pittsburgh membership, please contact our membership chair, Jan Kowalski, at 724-991-3851 or triplemom94@yahoo.com.

DIOLCH YN FAWR!
THANK YOU!



2018 Board of Directors

Officers

President: Rev. Robert Dayton
Vice President: Jessica Skye Davies
Secretary: JoAnn Evans
Treasurer: Jan Kowalski
Nationality Room Co-Chairs:
Rev. John Owen III
Dale Richards
Membership Chair: Jan Kowalski
Communications/Publicity Chair:
Liz Williams

Board of Directors

Ruthanne Ankney
Jessica Skye Davies
JoAnn Evans
Suzanne Hayden
Rev. Katherine Horstman
Jan Kowalski
Dr. Fred Long
Rev. John Owen III
Dale Richards
Ian Samways
Nic Schumer
Betsy Teti
Haydn Thomas
David Williams
Liz Williams
Robert Willis

Director Emeritus

Rev. Richard Davies



NAFOW in Washington, D.C.

The 2018 North American Festival of Wales (NAFoW) will be held in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C. Join Welsh enthusiasts from across North America for this exciting festival over Labor Day weekend, August 30-September 2, 2018 at the Hilton Alexandria Marks Center, located at 5000 Seminar Road, Alexandria, VA 22311. The North American Festival of Wales is held in a different location each year, in either the U.S. or Canada, and was most recently held in Washington, D.C. in 2007.

The four-day festival will offer attendees an exciting mix of Welsh cultural activities, including seminars, films, concerts, Eisteddfod competitions, a grand banquet, and a Gymanfa Ganu. Room reservations are available online now at www.nafow.org and registration for the festival will open in March. More details will become available during the coming weeks, so stay tuned. If you have always wanted to attend NAFoW, this is an excellent year to go! We will once again have several representatives from the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh attending.

Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House

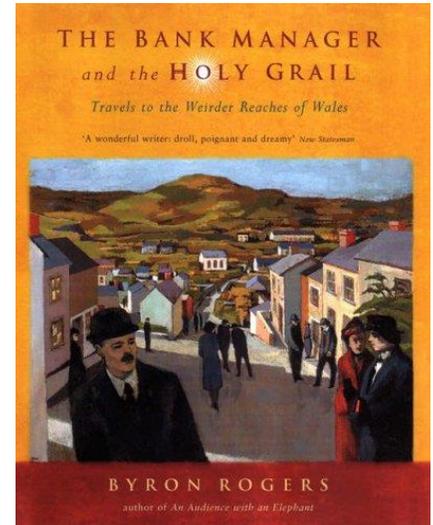
Thanks to everyone who joined us for the Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House at the Cathedral of Learning in December. We had several people stop by our table to purchase Welsh cakes and other items, or to share stories of their connections to Wales. Visit www.stdavidssociety.org/welsh-room to learn more about the Welsh Room in the Cathedral of Learning.



Notes from Welsh Book Club

All are welcome to join Welsh Book Club on Tuesday, January 30 for a discussion of *The Bank Manager and the Holy Grail: Travels to the Weirder Reaches of Wales* by Byron Rogers.

Rogers' Wales is not the stereotypical nation of rugby heroes, eisteddfods and coal mining. His travels take him to an altogether stranger and more magical country. In this nonfiction travel account, Rogers pieces together the story of Kaiser Wilhelm's sojourn in a Welsh spa town before the Great War, tours the Welsh waxwork museum largely populated with effigies of Prince Philip discarded by Madame Tussaud's, tells the story of how Kurt Cobain proposed to Courtney Love in a nightclub in Newport, and above all reveals how the Holy Grail came to be in the safe keeping of the manager of Lloyd's Bank in Aberystwyth.



As usual we will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Panera in Bakery Square (136 Bakery Square Blvd., Pittsburgh). New members are always welcome! We will be seeking recommendations for our March selection, so if you have any ideas please feel free to bring them along. For more information, please contact Liz Williams at lizcwilliams@msn.com.

Connect with Us!

Stay up to date with all things Welsh by connecting with the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh on the web:

- www.stdavidssociety.org
- www.facebook.com/welshsociety.pittsburgh
- www.meetup.com/pittsburgh-welsh-culture-meetup

Not receiving our monthly e-mail updates with news and information on upcoming events? Contact Liz Williams at lizcwilliams@msn.com to be added to the mailing list.



Recognizing Members Near and Far, Young and Old

We are so grateful to have members and friends who keep up with the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh from all over the world. Thank you to all who have written to us to let us know that you follow along with our activities by reading our newsletters or monthly e-mail updates.

In this edition, we would like to send a special greeting to one of our longtime supporters, **Albert Schnupp**. At 101 years old, he is still a loyal member of the St. David's Society of Pittsburgh and follows along from Towson, Maryland. Thank you, Al, for writing to us recently, and for continuing to show your support for the Welsh in Pennsylvania!

St. David's Day Hash Run to be Held March 1

As usual, the Hash House Harriers of Pittsburgh will host their annual St. David's Day Hash Run, on St. David's Day, March 1. For those adventurous enough to join the run, the group will meet at 6:30 p.m. and runners will take off around 7:00 p.m. Details of where the group will be meeting are forthcoming. Please contact Dave Williams at 724-544-1777 for more information or to join the Hash. To learn more about the Hash House Harriers, visit www.pgh-h3.com.

Welsh Language Classes: Spring Term

The spring term of Welsh Language Classes will start up again on March 21, from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Cathedral of Learning (exact classrooms TBD). There will be a beginner's class, focusing on conversational phrases to be used on upcoming trips to Wales, as well as an intermediate class for more experienced learners. For more information, please contact JoAnn Evans at evansjoann22@gmail.com.

Ontario Welsh Festival 2017

Our friends in Canada will once again be hosting The Ontario Welsh Festival, taking place April 27-29, 2018 in Kingston, Ontario at the Holiday Inn Waterfront (2 Princess Street, Kingston). The festival begins on Friday afternoon with a welcome tea featuring harpist Mary Muckle, followed by a Noson Lawen and informal singing in the evening. Hefina Philips "Say it in Welsh" workshop was so popular at last year's festival that she will once again be joining for a similar seminar. Saturday evening will include a banquet and grand concert featuring Côr y Gleision of Cardiff, Wales. Established in 2006, the choir has continued to grow and develop, and in 2016 won the First Prize in an Open Choir Competition. They have toured Spain, Scotland and Belgium and are looking forward to performing at this festival. Informal singing will follow the Saturday evening concert, and on Sunday morning there will be Gymanfa sessions at the Sydenham Street United Church, also known as The Spire. Festival rates are \$139 per night for a standard room and can be reserved by calling 1-800-315-2621. For more information, visit www.ontariowelshfestival.ca.



2018 Daffodil Luncheon Reservation

Luncheon Number of people _____ at \$30 per person.
 Number of children _____ at \$5 per child (12 and under).

Entree Choice(s): Sliced roast beef _____
 Glamorgan sausage (vegetarian) _____

Total Enclosed \$_____ *Make checks payable to St. David's Society of Pittsburgh*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Submit before February 24 to: **Robert Dayton, 205 Harbison Rd., Sarver, PA 16055**
Questions? Contact Robert Dayton at 724-295-4421.

