

MALAD VALLEY WELSH SOCIETY

Volume 11 Number 2 – June 2016

CHANGES FOR MALAD VALLEY WELSH SOCIETY EVENTS FOR NEXT YEAR

People are so busy – usually too busy to come to monthly Welsh Society meetings. The officers of the Malad Valley Welsh Society decided to try something different for 2016-2017. Instead of six monthly meetings, we will hold three special holiday events: one in the fall around Halloween, one in the winter to celebrate Christmas/New Year's, and one for St. David's Day on or near March 1. We will host a get-together at the annual Welsh Festival.

All members will receive a phone call, a text, or an email message to let you know about these events. Be sure to provide your email address and your phone number on the enclosed membership renewal form so you can be notified about upcoming events.

The local Malad members will work very hard to make these three celebrations fun, educational, and entertaining. We will always have refreshments and door prizes, so plan on attending the Welsh Society events this year!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE MALAD VALLEY WELSH SOCIETY TODAY BY SENDING IN THE ENCLOSED FORM WITH YOUR CHECK!

\$5 OF YOUR DUES SUPPORT THE WELSH FESTIVAL!

12th ANNUAL MALAD VALLEY WELSH FESTIVAL JUNE 24-26, 2016

See www.welshfestival.com for the schedule.

12TH ANNUAL MALAD VALLEY WELSH FESTIVAL – JUNE 24 - 26

The 12th annual Malad Valley Welsh Festival will be held the last weekend in June – the 24th -26th. Tell everyone you know to come and celebrate being Welsh (or wishing they were Welsh). The enclosed flyer includes the schedule, but check the website for updates.

Welsh Society members can plan on meeting at noon on both Friday and Saturday of the Festival at the Welsh Society booth (by the City Park Pavilion) to meet and mingle. Enclosed is a \$5 coupon for the food and craft booths at the Festival. A community cookout will be held on Friday, the 24th. The price is just \$6 for all-you-can-eat hamburgers, salads, and desserts.

Bring your name tag (enclosed) and get a sleeve for it at the meet-and-greet or the information booth so you can wear it throughout the Festival.

CYMRU AM BYTH – WALES FOREVER!

CELTIC FESTIVAL GETS STARTED FOR IDAHO FALLS AREA

A new Celtic festival was held in Ammon, Idaho, on the first Saturday in May. The Malad Valley Welsh Festival was there to promote the Festival by handing out flyers, selling flags, and talking to people about Wales. It was interesting to field some of the questions:

“What country is Wales in?”

“What Scottish clan is Wales?”

“Are whales important to Scotland?”

Obviously, we have some educating to do!

The Ammon CeltFest was small this first year, but the attendees were enthusiastic. The events included demonstrations of Scottish games, Irish dancing and Celtic bands, representatives of some Scottish clans, and a couple of food booths selling both traditional food (corned beef, cheese, cabbage, chutney) and non-traditional food (frozen yogurt). Watch for this Festival next year because it promises to be another opportunity to learn about Celtic traditions.

MISSIONARY AND MISSIONARY “MOM” REUNION PARTY AT WELSH FESTIVAL

Did you serve an LDS mission in the British Isles? Do you know someone serving there now? Come to the Missionary and Missionary “Mom” reunion party, the concluding event for the Malad Valley Welsh Festival on Saturday, June 25, beginning at 4:00. It doesn't matter if you served a month ago or many years ago. It doesn't matter if you were in England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales – just come

and share stories of what missionary life was like when you were there.

Steven Albrechtsen, who recently returned from the mission that includes Wales, will give a short presentation on what his mission was like. Steven is enthusiastic about his Welsh roots and his mission experience. He proposed to his wife with a Welsh lovespoon instead of a ring!

Bring souvenirs, journals, stories, and pictures to share. Refreshments will be served.

Please tell other former missionaries who served in the British Isles about this opportunity to relive the exciting, rewarding, and wonderful memories of missionary service.

MALAD VALLEY WELSH SOCIETY OFFICERS - 2016-2017

Jean Thomas, President

Susan Wittman, Secretary

Brent Evanson, Treasurer

8th Graders Research Malad Valley Historical Sites

Mr. Luke Waldron's 8th grade history classes of the past four years have researched many of the historical sites, buildings, and businesses, in Oneida County. Prior to beginning their research, Mr. Waldron arranges to take the students on an all-day field trip to some of the historical sites in the Valley, including downtown Malad, Samaria, Daniels, Pleasantview, and St. John. The students enjoy hearing about underground Malad (the tunnels that connected most of the building in downtown Malad and sheltered some of the poker games

that were rampant when gambling was legal in Idaho), seeing where Ben Waldron's leg is buried in the Samaria Cemetery, and hearing about the pioneers who settled these towns in the 1860s.

The students interview persons who have knowledge of their selected sites and conduct research at the *Idaho Enterprise* office, the Oneida Pioneer Museum, and the LDS Family History Center. After finding pictures and as much information as they can, the students write 1-2 page essays about their historical sites, including quotes and pictures. The students' work is judged by community members, and the winning students receive certificates and get to present their research at the Welsh Festival. This year's winners will present at 4:00 on Friday, the 24th.

Mr. Waldron believes that before students can get excited about state, national, or global history, they have to understand and appreciate the history of their home towns. He is working to turn the best of the students' work into a history book that will be over 300 pages in length. Orders for this invaluable book will be taken at the Welsh Festival.

PLAN YOUR FAMILY REUNION AT THE WELSH FESTIVAL!

Contact Jean Thomas (thomjea2@isu.edu or 208-766-5361) if you want to reserve meeting space, have your reunion advertised in Festival publicity, and receive coupons for the Festival food and craft booths for all of your Reunion attendees!

Become a "Friend of the Museum" to support the Oneida Pioneer Museum.

Annual: \$20 (2 years - \$35)
Handcart: \$50 (2 years - \$95)
Covered Wagon: \$100 (2 years - \$190)
Stagecoach: \$200 (2 years - \$390)

Send your tax deductible donation to the Museum at P.O. Box 79, Malad, ID 83252.

Malad Valley Family History Books, Volumes 1-3, are available at Thomas Market, the Blue Goose, the Oneida Pioneer Museum, and Malad City Hall.

The Malad Valley Welsh Society Newsletter is published semi-annually. All members of the Malad Valley Welsh Society receive a copy as a benefit of membership. To put stories, ads, or information in the Newsletter, contact Jean Thomas (208-766-5361) or thomjea2@isu.edu.

The Malad Valley Welsh Foundation is the nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that raises funds to support the Festival. All donations to the Festival and Society are tax deductible. To make charitable donations to benefit the Society and Festival, please send your donation to the Malad Valley Welsh Foundation, 59 Bannock Street, Malad, ID 83252.

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LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE GIFT? Give a membership to the Malad Valley Welsh Society – just \$10. Contact Jean Thomas (208-766-4417).

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