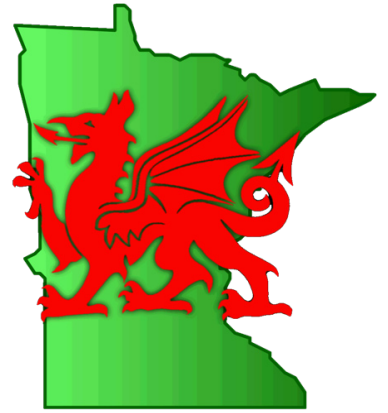


*Newyddion o Gymdeithas Dewi Sant*

# St. David's Society News

Volume 43/Issue 4/Autumn/Hydref 2025



## Holiday Tea set for Saturday, December 13

Join us to celebrate together the joys of the season—Christmas, the solstice, and winter (yes, we can celebrate winter) at our annual **Holiday Tea on Saturday, December 13, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

We'll gather at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, 2323 Como Ave., St. Paul.

We'll have poetry and various readings on the season as usual, and of course, music. We'll sing carols, some familiar in English and some in Welsh, and learn a children's Christmas or winter song or two in Welsh.

**Please bring a treat to share—either savory or sweet.**

A new celebration this year—of the authors, craftspeople, artists, and musicians of our Welsh community. Expect to be surprised, delighted, and perhaps to find a very special gift.

We invite our members to show off their talents by bringing their art, music, books, crafts, etc., for display or to sell.

If you are bringing something, please arrive early (by 1:30 p.m.) so we can create the display. We will also invite you to bring your creative works to our St. David's Day celebration at the end of February.

There is a free parking lot off the street aside the church, Luther Place. On street parking is also free.

We hope to see you on December 13!

*Janice Barbee, Pam Rose, David Richards,  
and Hywel Roberts, Board members of the  
St. David's Society of Minnesota.*

# *Nadolig Llawen i chi*

## Merry Christmas to you

**LOOKING AHEAD: OUR ST. DAVID'S CELEBRATION  
WILL BE HELD SAT., FEB. 28. DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**

# Picnic and annual meeting held August 24

St. David's Society members enjoyed fellowship and delicious food at the summer picnic Aug. 24. The event was held at Rosebrook Park in Roseville.

At the annual business meeting, financial reports were presented and approved.

All officers were re-elected: Janice Barbee, president; Pam Rose, treasurer; Board members—David Richards and Hywel Roberts. Thanks to them for serving the membership faithfully for so long, and for agreeing to continue to do so.



**Thanks to Janice Barbee for the photos.**

If you have suggestions for our St. David's Society newsletter, please contact the editor:

Mary Morris Mergenthal, [mary.mergenthal@gmail.com](mailto:mary.mergenthal@gmail.com), 612-670-8510 calls/text.

Diolch yn fawr!



# Scenes from NAFOW 2025



## *Cor Penrhyn from North Wales*

The North American Festival of Wales 2025 was held in Ottawa, Canada, at the end of August. St. David's Society of Minnesota members who attended included Janice and Don Barbee, Laurel Bradshaw, Trilby Busch, Dan Proud, John Rustad, Kay Thomas, Karen Wojahn, and Wendy Worner.

Your editor was unable to attend this year, so apologies to any member who attended whose name I missed.

**Thanks to Trilby and Janice for the photos.**



## *The NAFOW Gymanfa Ganu*



### **Remembering Jim Rustad**

James William (Jim) Rustad, 83, of St Paul, died Sept. 23, 2025, after a short struggle with MDS syndrome and heart failure.

Jim graduated from Washburn High School and the University of Minnesota with degrees in Chemical Engineering, Law, and an MBA. He was president of the student body and an active member of the ATO fraternity. He maintained those friendships throughout his life.

Jim retired from RBC Wealth Management in 2005, where he had been a financial consultant to individuals, small companies, and their retirement plans. This gave him time to pursue his passion for the arts. He especially liked organizations that were small, showed potential for growth and needed community and fiduciary support.

He chaired the boards of the Minnesota Museum of American Art, Park Square Theatre, and the Weisman Art Museum. He was an active board member of the American Craft Council, COMPAS, Headwaters Foundation for Justice, and the American Refugee Committee (now Alight). He also took a very strong interest in Public Art Saint Paul and the SooVac Gallery for emerging artists.

When Jim took on a responsibility with an organization, he gave it his all. He said, You show up, spread the word about the organization to others, and do your part to help the organization succeed." Both Jim and Kay enjoyed visiting museums, galleries, and art openings. They collected art, largely from Minnesota artists, and frequently opened their home for events in support for non-profits.

An incredible networker, Jim enjoyed connecting people. He listened carefully to people, cared about their concerns and interests, and frequently made important connections for them. He was quiet, humble, loyal, a mentor, and a great friend. Besides, he was witty, funny, and very humorous.

While Jim was not Welsh, he was a Welshman at heart, thanks to regular attendance at the North American Festival of Wales. As he was near death, he expressed gratitude that he'd gotten to Ottawa for this year's festival.

He was preceded in death by his parents Arne and Maxine Rustad. He is survived by longtime St. David's Society member Kay Thomas, his partner and best friend for over 30 years: sons Andrew (Tara) and Ted: and four grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life has been held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis, complete with Dixieland music, which he played and loved.

Memorials are preferred to The Minnesota Museum of American Art, Park Square Theatre, the American Craft Council, or to the University of Minnesota Law School for students showing a commitment to social justice.

### **Greeting cards from the Society**

If you know of a Society member who would appreciate a card (illness, surgery, loss, joy...), please notify:

Mary Mergenthal,  
[mary.mergenthal@gmail.com](mailto:mary.mergenthal@gmail.com),  
612-670-8510 (calls/texts) or  
2393 Bourne Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108.

*Diolch yn fawr.*



# **Membership Application/Membership Renewal Form**

## **St. David's Society of Minnesota**

[www.stdavidsofmn.org](http://www.stdavidsofmn.org)

[www.facebook.com/stdavidsofmn](http://www.facebook.com/stdavidsofmn)

**PLEASE PRINT YOUR INFORMATION**

**Name (for Partner/Family\* memberships, please include all names):**

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**Address (including city, state & zip):**

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**Phone Number(s) for Directory:**

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**E-mail Address(es):**\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **I do not use or seldom use email. Please send communications by post.**

### **Individual and Partner/Family Membership Categories and Rates:**

**Individual Annual (July 1- June 30) \$25/year**

**Partner/Family \* Annual (July 1- June 30) \$40/year**

**Individual Lifetime (one-time payment) \$225**

**Partner/Family\* Lifetime (one-time payment) \$300**

**\* Partner/Family Rate covers 2 adults and may include children  
under the same roof under 18 years of age.**

### **Organization Membership Categories and Rates**

**Affiliated Organization (July 1- June 30) \$50/year**

**\_\_\_ Supporting Organization (July 1- June 30) \$75/year**

**\_\_\_ Sustaining Organization (July 1 - June 30) \$100/year**

**Please make checks payable to: ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF MN**

**Send membership status questions to: [pamresearch@hotmail.com](mailto:pamresearch@hotmail.com)**

**Mail this form and check to: Pam Rose, Treasurer**

**8514-13th Ave S.**

**Bloomington, MN 55425**

**St. David's Society of Minnesota**  
**Janice Barbee, president**  
**3425 Wisconsin Ave. N.**  
**Crystal, MN 55427**

## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**



**This town, with the longest name in the world, is in Anglesey, on the Menai Strait, North Wales.  
Population is about 3,000, of whom 71% speak Welsh. Often shortened to LlanfairPG.**