



Y Ddolen



Linking the Puget Sound Welsh Community

Visit www.pugetsoundwelsh.org

Medi / Hydref September / October

2007

Y Ddolen/The Link is a bi-monthly newsletter for the Puget Sound Welsh Association

Reminder:

GYMANFA GANU

Sunday, October 14, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.
St. Andrews Episcopal Church
111 NE 80th Street Seattle, WA

Presented by the
Puget Sound
Welsh Association



Featuring congregational singing
of traditional Welsh hymns in
both Welsh and English

Directed by Mari Morgan

Special Music by Nerys Jones

Tea, Cookies, and Welsh Crafts Table
Following the Singing

Admission is free & donations are welcome

For information please contact
Ellen Webber (206) 522-9853

**Donations of cookies, Welsh cakes or other
goodies will be gladly accepted for the Tea
afterward. Please drop them off with Laura in
the kitchen downstairs prior to the Gymanfa**

**Proceeded by a Potluck, Saturday evening
Oct. 13th at 5:30pm at Alan & Gretta Upshalls, at
7049 NE 163rd St, Kenmore WA 09028 call
(425)488-7288**

A Letter From The Board

It is the perception to the Welsh societies around the region and abroad that PSWA is a vibrant and active group. Indeed in reading the activities in this newsletter it continues to appear so.

We have a loyal membership around 120 strong, and an event mailing list well over 700. When we have an event we can count on between 100-250 people attend, smaller groups have taken the initiative to organize regional activities and we have money in the bank. It all looks good on paper.

But we have an Achilles heel that could bring PSWA down suddenly and force us to cease to exist as an organization. The fear of this is making us ask again the hard questions of how we see the future of PSWA and to make a contingency plan for that day.

The PSWA Board is limping along on a skeleton crew with a President (over 10 yrs) Treasurer (a past President) and Newsletter Editor/Membership Secretary (married to the first guy mentioned) and a faithful Board Rep (20 yrs). With the duties of the board falling on so few it is making it increasingly difficult to make future plans and commitments in order to organize events. We have had some close calls in recent years.

The truth of the matter is that PSWA is one; illness, job change or family emergency away from donating the money and artifacts to an appropriate organization and dissolving. The Board is discussing ways to organize assets and explore appropriate options in case this should come sooner than later.

We strongly encourage members to make themselves known to us who would be willing to serve on the Board; initially as a Trustee, so that the duties of the Board can be divided up once again into a workable and sustainable group. The Board meets informally 4-5 times a year and by phone as needed.

Seattle Welsh Women's News

~Carol Jones

The Welsh Women meetings have begun again after a few months off. Next meetings

October 12th, 11:30 am, at the Bellevue Library.

November 9th 11:30 am, at the Bellevue Library.

Along with on going plans for next years St Davids day program hopefully, we will be able to continue with the plight of the District Nurse in the next installment in the series that we have been watching during our lunch!

South Sound News

~Karyn & Malcolm Davies

Night Out of Hwyl: **Please RSVP by 12pm that Day so your spot is reserved: Malcolm or Karyn Davies at or_grown@yahoo.com or 360-893-7256. Sunday, October 21st, 6pm.

Sunday, November 11th, 6pm

The Ram Restaurant & Brewery 10019 59th Ave SW, Lakewood 253-584-3191
<http://theram.com/wa-lakewood.php>

Celtic Christmas Faire, Lacey, WA

Sponsored by the Celtic Society of South Puget Sound December date to be announced...

BUT, your participation is requested to represent Cymru at the Celtic Faire! Performers/Entertainers are encouraged to contact Josh Amos at: ssoundcelt@hotmail.com

If there is interest in helping with a Welsh Information table and/or with selling Welsh Crafts, please contact Karyn Davies at or_grown@yahoo.com or 360.893.7256. We'll have a table only if there is enough support from YOU.

Harp Circle and Celtic Music Session Plus Something New

~Kevin and Laura

The monthly Harp Circle and Welsh music session are still happening at the Dubliner Pub in Fremont. Held on the first Sunday of the month, the harp circle, hosted by Andrew Anderson, begins at noon. Celtic music is featured. At 2:00 p.m., Kevin and Laura host the Welsh music session. The present emphasis is on traditional dance music, although some interest has been expressed in singing. The Dubliner Pub is located at Fremont Avenue

North and North 36th Street in Seattle's Fremont neighborhood. Minors are welcome until 8:00 p.m.

Starting in October, Kevin and Laura will be hosting a Welsh music session in their home in Seattle's Wallingford neighborhood on the third Sunday of the month starting at 2:00 p.m. The gatherings will be social in nature and will provide an opportunity to play and learn traditional Welsh dance music. Recording devices are recommended. Call (206) 633-3577 or email kgandll@juno.com

Skip Healy Concert and Flute Clinic

Skip Healy will be performing at a house concert in Seattle on Friday night, October 19, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. Skip is known as one of America's finest wooden flute and fife players and has won honors worldwide. He is also the president of The Healy Flute Company, makers of fine wooden flutes, piccolos and fifes. The concert will be at 3616 Burke Ave N in Seattle. Admission is \$18.00 at the door.

Skip, a master teacher, will also be conducting flute two-hour clinics on Saturday, October 20th at the same address in Seattle. The beginning/novice clinic will be from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. and will cover breathing, posture, tunes and how to play them, stories, history and a joke or two. The intermediate/advanced clinic will be from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and will cover advanced techniques and style. Clinics are \$40 each. Individual private lessons are also available for \$50 per hour.

For more information about either event, call (206) 633-3577 or email kgandll@juno.com

Christmas Potluck, Movie & Trivia Night

December 8th 4:30pm at Alan & Gretta Upshall's. We'll watch *A Childs Christmas in Wales* and enjoy the merriment of the season. See the November issue for more details or check www.pugetsoundwelsh.org.

Bryn Seion Welsh Church Harvest Festival

~Bev Ratajak

Sunday, Sept. 23 at 12:00 pm

The congregation of Bryn Seion Welsh Church cordially invites everyone to attend its first annual Harvest Service.

In Great Britain, including Wales, the service usually takes place each year at the autumn equinox and thanksgiving to God for a bountiful harvest is its

theme. The service will include scriptures in Welsh and English, Welsh poetry, Welsh hymns, and special music by a guest soloist. At the end of the service, everyone will bring up an offering of produce and/or canned food to the altar to be blessed and distributed to those in need. There will be corn dollies (wheat weavings) available for sale, which you may use to decorate your homes for the Fall season. A reception will follow. Contact Bev Ratajak, Music Director at Bryn Seion if you have any questions (541/259-4478). We hope that you will be able to join us for this special event!

Bryn Seion Lessons & Carols Service

Sunday, December 9 at 12:00pm

Annette Pritchard, Celtic harpist, has been invited to play for this service and has agreed to come.

Allison S., who graced us with her beautiful voice at our Gymanfa Ganu Sunday Service, will also be performing.

A men's ensemble will begin learning some Plygain carols soon, to be done at the service. We need more voices and a practice time will be set up. Contact Bev Ratajak, Music Director at Bryn Seion if you have any questions (541/259-4478). http://www.wapnw.org/bryn_seion.html

Guitarist Michael Partington, at the University of Washington School of Music

~ Cynthia St Clair

Sunday, October 7, 2007

Faculty recital at the Brechemin Auditorium, University of Washington School of Music
Tickets are \$10 (cash or check at the door)

Michael Partington is one of the most engaging of the new generation of concert players. Praised by *Classical Guitar Magazine* for his "lyricism, intensity and clear technical command," this award-winning British guitarist has performed internationally as a soloist and with ensembles to unanimous critical praise. Partington has performed live on radio stations throughout the U.S. and U.K., including BBC Radio 3's *In Tune*, BBC Wales, and *St. Paul Sunday* on National Public Radio

He began playing guitar at age six while growing up in Wales, gave his first public performance a year later, and won his first competition at age nine. Partington has trained with many of the world's

greatest guitarists. Welsh composer Stephen Goss's *Sonata for Guitar* was written for Michael Partington and premiered in 2006.

For more visit www.michaelpartington.com
206-685-8384 www.music.washington.edu



Pictured here front L-R, Carol Paschal, Janet Figini (from Bryn Seion Welsh Church) Gretta Upshall, Gerri Parry, Betty Pierce (Bryn Seion), Jean Sturton, Johanna Clark, back L-R are Alan Upshall, Brian Parry and Evans Paschal. Not pictured: Olive Thompson, Elizabeth Goldyn, David and Mary Williams.

Twelve PSWA members in all attended the 2007 North American Festival of Wales in Washington DC over Labor Day weekend. It was an excellent weekend of friends, activities, history and song.

From the Mail Box

Natur Cymru – The Nature of Wales, a quarterly magazine that aims to inform, delight and promote debate about the countryside and wild life of Wales. www.naturcymru.org.uk

Rob Morgan in Wales sends a pamphlet about the Pembrokeshire Saints and Stones Pilgrimages, <http://www.saintsandstones.com/>.

From the Scottish-American Military Society sends a thank you to PSWA for the donation of a Welsh flag to their post, "they will display it whenever the opportunity presents itself." [As they attend many events around Washington State] "On behalf of all our members, thank you [to those PSWA members] for your support of the troops in the Welsh Regiments, deployed in war zones"

Peter Dawson, Post Commander

Bronn Journey Christmas Concerts

Bronn Journey has just released a new CD in time for the 2007 Fall and Christmas concerts.

Go to <http://phileomusic.com/concerts.html> for concert details. And see a You tube video of Bronn and Katherine performing Oh Holy Night.

Oct. 12 th Victoria, BC	Dec 17 Issaquah, WA
Oct 13 th Victoria, BC	Dec 18 Port Angeles, WA
Dec 7 Portland, OR	Dec 19 Bremerton, WA
Dec 8 Hillsboro, OR	Dec 20 Olympia, WA
Dec 9 Tillamook, OR	Dec 22 Shoreline, WA
Dec 11 Kirkland, WA	Dec 23 Mt Vernon, WA
Dec 14 Everett, WA	Dec 30 South Bend, WA
Dec 15 Auburn, WA	

The Willamette Meteorite

Excerpts were taken from the Pacific Northwest Post Card Club Jan/Feb 2007 newsletter. Read the full story at: <http://www.pnpcc.com>

The Willamette Meteorite a 15.5-ton iron meteorite was discovered in the town of West Linn, a suburb just a few miles south of Portland, Oregon was discovered in 1902 by a Ellis Hughes, a Welsh immigrant, on land adjacent to his owned by the Oregon Iron and Steel Company. After trying unsuccessfully to buy the land, Hughes secretly dragged the meteorite to his own land using an ingenious system consisting of a log cart, cables and winches. It took him three months of intensive labor to cover the 3/4 of a mile to his property. He then began charging the public twenty-five cents apiece to view the mysterious object and people traveled from miles around to see it for themselves. Oregon Iron and Steel discovered the removal of the meteorite and filed suit, seeking to regain possession of it. The case worked its way up to the Supreme Court of the State of Oregon. Hughes claimed possession on the grounds that he was the discoverer of the meteorite. Oregon Iron and Steel claimed possession on the grounds that the meteorite was as much a part of the land as any other mineral matter. At the time, the meteorite was assumed to have fallen where it had been found, like most meteorites. The Oregon State Supreme Court ruled in favor of Oregon Iron and Steel, establishing the precedent that when a piece of another world falls to the earth, it becomes the property of whoever owns the real estate upon which the object lands.

The meteorite was displayed at the 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition in Portland where it was ceremoniously unveiled on the Expos's Meteorite Day. After the Lewis and Clark Exposition, the meteorite was purchased by a wealthy New York heiress, who donated it to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. It has been prominently displayed as one of their prime exhibits ever since. In 2000 the meteorite was the subject of litigation again.

From The Enumclaw Courier

Friday, September 6, 1907, page 6.

~Joanne Matsumura

I had to do some quick look up in a 1907 newspaper for someone today and I found the following. Didn't want to miss an opportunity to share proving Welsh women are strong!

"LONG TRIP BY ALASKA WOMAN.

Mrs. Gilroy Ends 20,000-Mile Journey from Alaska to Wales.

By her remarkable experience concluded by a 375-mile drive in a cutter from Valdez to Fairbanks, Mrs. Gilroy, a pioneer woman of the north, has in the past winter achieved a record for travel that few women have equaled, says the Seattle Times. She arrived in Fairbanks, meeting her husband, who had been looking after their interests on Little El Dorado Creek in her absence. Going to Seattle and on her return trip she was accompanied by Willie, her 16 year-old-son.

Having made a success of her mercantile business on Fairbanks Creek, Mrs. Gilroy last fall decided to visit her aged father in their old home of Glassford, North Wales. Accompanied by her son, she made the trip to Seattle by way of St. Michael. At Seattle the boy was put into school and she continued her long journey over the continent and across the Atlantic slope.

After a long visit with her relatives and considerable travel through Great Britain, Mrs. Gilroy returned to Seattle and again joined by her son started back north. Instead of taking the stage at Valdez she ventured forth in a conveyance of her own.

The cutter was not large enough to accommodate all the baggage, but with the ingenuity characteristic of Alaska women, she soon overcame this. The baggage was lashed on a double-ender, and the cutter was then coupled on behind. This plan worked successfully, despite the fact that some of the heaviest weather of the season and worst drifts were encountered."

Llangollen International Eisteddfod Syllabus_2008

~Joel Ware

The syllabus for the 2008 International Eisteddfod is now available in hard copy, and on the Eisteddfod's website at www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk (where you can also see highlights of the 2007 festival).

Competitors from at least 50 countries are again expected to sing and dance in competition and in concerts and other events as the festival builds on not only its 61 successful years but also on its popular recent developments.

There are again 28 competitions in the syllabus for 2008; all of the traditional Eisteddfod categories are there, including those introduced in the last few years; Barbershop, the International Celtic strand, and the Dance Duos/Trios and World Street Dance competitions.

Hilary Tann's specially commissioned Set Piece in the Female Choir competition, *Wellspring*, will be an exciting challenge for applicants in this traditional category; there are also Set Pieces for Junior Children's and Male Choirs - further details of these are also available in the Syllabus, and individual copies can be sent for previewing.

If you have any queries regarding the syllabus, please do not hesitate to contact the Music Office, on + 44 (0) 1978 862003; fax + 44 (0) 1978 862005; or by email at music@international-eisteddfod.co.uk

The dates of the 2008 Eisteddfod are 8-13 July. Applications for group competitions at the 2008 Eisteddfod must be received before the end of October 2007. We hope to hear from you soon!

For more details regarding 2009 please contact the Music Office directly:

Mervyn Cousins, Music Director
mervync@international-eisteddfod.co.uk
Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod
Abbey Road, Llangollen, LL20 8SW
Wales - UK
Tel: 01978 862003/ Fax: 01978 862002
*Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod:
nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, 2004*

Technical Jones

The Welsh language, spoken by over half a million people in Wales, is alive and well and moving into a new technological era. The internet is "y we"; a website is "gwefan"; a homepage is "hafan"; and the Chair of the Welsh-language television channel S4C holds conversations about the Channel's service in a live online chat room.

Microsoft has joined the Welsh technological revolution and Welsh speakers can now download software that allows users to choose Welsh or English as an interface language for Windows XP and Office 2003. A Welsh Google bar allowing users to browse Welsh-language websites has been developed by Mozilla.

Microsoft also offers a Welsh spelling and grammar checker as does the commercial specialist language software developer Omega First. Welsh company Testico has recently made available a free downloadable program to allow Welsh speakers to use 'predictive texting' in Welsh on their mobile phones. A Welsh-language version of Wikipedia is now available and April saw the launch of a new Internet television channel, Siaradog.com, hosted by Welsh rapper Aneirin Karadog.

And if you don't speak Welsh, language lessons are now also offered online on BBC Wales's website and programs can be downloaded onto the learner's MP3 for learning on the go.

The Welsh technological revolution is part of the Welsh Assembly Government's vision to make Wales wholly bilingual. Almost 40% of young people in Wales are now totally fluent in both Welsh and English and it is they in particular who are driving the changes forward.

Professor David Crystal of Bangor University, Wales, one of the world's leading linguists, has recently claimed that the Internet is a savior of the Welsh language. He said, "It doesn't matter how much activism you engage in on behalf of a language if you don't attract the teenagers, the parents of the next generation of children. And what turns teenagers on more than the Internet these days? If you can get a language out there, the youngsters are much more likely to think it's cool."

Castles of Wales

~*Benton Williams*

Of 400 Welsh castles, 100 of which are still standing and remain in their various forms are monuments of the conflict between England and Wales that existed for five centuries. Their epic stories begin in 1066 with the Norman Conquest, when Chepstow was built of stone in 1067.

However when Llywelyn the Great (1154-1189) led the Welsh in their struggle for independence a profusion of castle construction ensued. Wood was replaced by stone. The English became alarmed and began building huge edifices, like Pembroke castle.

When Llywelyn was slain in a bizarre skirmish, his son resumed the assault on the English with another wave of castles such as Caerphilly, Carnarfon and Conwy. Edward I came to power in 1272, determined to wipe out the Welsh rebels once and for all, and another wave of castle building occurred, such as Beaumaris. Edward ordered his border lords to rise up and defeat the Welsh, causing another group of castles to be installed, such as Manorbier, Cyfarthfa, Chirk and Abergavenny. Later these became private residences. Some became useful community structures, such as Cardiff or museums like Carnarfon or blown up by Oliver Cromwell, like Caerphilly. Abergavenny has a particular gruesome history. The English owners invited Welsh dignitaries there with the sole purpose of murdering them.

Cafarthfa castle in Merthyr Tydfil has become a school for boys as well as a museum. William Crawshay's portrait is there with the words, "May God forgive me". His atonement for turning the area into a quagmire of coal dust, blast furnaces and slag heaps

Harlech castle was Edward's second one and is probably the most traditionally romantic considering its Celtic lore, Arthurian legends and its stirring folk song march. Laugharne castle, on the Taf River estuary, gets its share of visitors probably because of the poet Dylan Thomas.

Many castles have been restored by their resident owners. Some have been abandoned as remnants of a violent past and some have become useful structures in modern Welsh communities.

Welsh Reading

A Flavour of Wales Contemporary Welsh Cooking *by Dorothy Davies*

'Essential reading for those interested in contemporary Wales and the Welsh way of life...' Dorothy has recently appeared on BBC Radio Wales with Jamie Owen and on an ITV cookery show to be aired in the autumn.

Cambria magazine's well known cook and food writer by Dorothy Davies, brings together ten years of her widely acclaimed 'Welsh Kitchen' column.

This book is a practical guide to the enjoyment of fresh local produce with traditional and innovative interpretations, full of short cuts, hints and secrets for the time-poor home cook of today.

[Http://www.lulu.com/content/189022](http://www.lulu.com/content/189022)

Salvage

By Gee Williams

The first author to be published by Alcemi, the English language imprint of Y Lolfa, who have been publishing in Wales for 40 years.

Salvage is a literary thriller set in coastal West Wales and in Chester, a murder mystery where the English and the Welsh clash. There's a body, a priceless diamond ring and a tangled set of relationships resulting in betrayal. Phil Rickman of Radio Wales described it as "ultimately effective, in the end conveying one inescapable message – never trust anyone in Cheshire!" You can find out more on www.academi.org in the Writers of Wales section.

For more books by Welsh authors visit www.gwales.com

MARK YOUR 2007 CALENDARS

First Sunday of each month: Harp Circle & Celtic Music at the Dubliner Pub 2:00pm

Gruff Rhys NW Concerts at www.ticketweb.com

September 29 - Crocodile Café, Seattle WA

September 30 - Doug Fir Lounge, Portland

September 23 Bryn Seion Harvest Festival

October 21st South Sound Night Out of Hwyl

October 13 Noson Lawen Potluck at the Upshalls

October 14 Gymanfa Ganu in Seattle 2:00pm

November 1 -4 Vancouver Welsh Centenary

<http://www.welshsociety.com>

November 11 South Sound Night Out of Hwyl

December 8 PSWA Christmas Potluck

December 9 Bryn Seion Lessons & Carols Service

Y Ddolen [*The Link*]

is published bimonthly by the Puget Sound Welsh Association. Views expressed herein do not imply Puget Sound Welsh Association endorsement. Annual subscription is included in the PSWA membership dues. PSWA is dedicated to promoting and preserving the history and heritage of the Welsh in the Puget Sound region and surrounding environs.

We welcome stories, articles and pictures of interest. Please send them to Gerri Parry:
5760 60th Ave NE Seattle WA 98105
(206) 524-0854 or gerribp@hotmail.com

PSWA T-Shirts

Shirts are Gildan brand Steel Green and come in sizes from S-XL. For a \$15.00 donation* (plus \$3.00 S&H) to the Puget Sound Welsh Association you will receive a PSWA t-shirt.

Send check or money order to:

PSWA, P.O. Box 19344 Seattle, WA 99109-0344

Include shipping cost, size and your address for USPS delivery or pick up your shirt in Seattle at the Parry's house or in Orting at the Davies' house. Alternatively, they will be made available at all South Sound Nights Out and other PSWA events. To see the shirts in living color, go to: <http://www.pugetsoundwelsh.org/home.html>.

***T-Shirt donation does not apply to membership dues.**

Welsh Websites: We frequently get requests to distribute to our membership Welsh related advertisements and promotions. Although PSWA does not endorse any, many are listed on the PSWA website. For a variety of interests click on LINKS at: www.pugetsoundwelsh.org. Catch a glimpse of the "Portraits of Everyday Americans: the Welsh in Washington State" panels that are touring the state on the PSWA website http://www.pugetsoundwelsh.org/wa_stories.html

Featured Link of the Month: <http://www.motivatingmates.com/>

This is a website centered in Wales for people looking to match or meet with other people inside or outside Wales who share the same interests. You can narrow your search for a pen pal or activity mate by region and by interests from dozens of subjects ranging from adventure racing or bee keeping to walking the dog or writing.

PUGET SOUND WELSH ASSOCIATION (PSWA) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PSWA is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization (501c(3)). Contributions may be tax-deductible. Your membership dues include a subscription to PSWA's newsletter, *Y Ddolen*.

Check your mailing label for your membership renewal date. If you move, please let us know your new address as soon as possible - the Post Office charges to forward bulk mail. For memberships outside the U.S. or Canada, please add \$5 for a 1-year membership, \$50 for a life membership. *Diolch yn fawr iawn*/thank you very much!

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT TO PSWA, P.O. Box 19344, SEATTLE, WA 98109.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____

Phone (evening) _____

Email _____

- PSWA T-Shirts: \$15.00 donation +\$3.00 P&H per t-shirt (indicate how many & size)
- ___ SM ___ MED ___ LG ___ XLG

MEMBERSHIPS

Amount

1 year single (\$10) _____

1 year family (\$15) _____

Life (\$100) _____

Overseas Postage _____

General Fund _____

Memorial Scholarship _____

T- Shirt Total _____

Fund in memory of _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Y Ddolen
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Seattle, WA 98109

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PUGET SOUND WELSH ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

BOARD OFFICERS

President:	Brian Parry	206.524.0854	Secretary (acting)	Brian Parry	206.524.0854
V. President:	[Currently Vacant]		Treasurer	Alan Upshall	425.488.7288
Membership Secretary	Gerri Parry	206.524.0854	At Large Members:	Jackie Cedarholm	206.774.4336

GROUP

BOARD REP

CONTACT

<i>Cor Cymraeg Seattle</i> (Seattle Welsh Choir)	Ellen Webber	206.522.9853	Ray Stevenson	206.789.7451
<i>Dawnsywyr Dewi Sant</i> (Welsh Folk Dance)	Robert Smith	206.546.9242	Robert Smith	206.546.9242
<i>Gweithdy Crefftau Gymreig</i> (Welsh Craft)	Elizabeth Miller	425.398.9020	Carolyn Bell	206.363.3589
<i>Events & Activities</i>	Brian Parry	206.524.0854	Gem Parry	206.524.0854
<i>Seattle Welsh Women's Club</i>	Eileen Wyke	425.746.7771	Carol Jones	425.882.2825
<i>South Sound Activities</i>	Karyn & Malcolm Davies	or_grown@yahoo.com		360.893.7256
<i>Newsletter & Website</i>	Gerri Parry	gbakerparry@aol.com		206.524.0854