

St. David's Society
of Savannah

Tudor Ball

August 23rd, 2025



Commemorating

The Battle of Bosworth Field

August 22nd, 1485

HENRY VII

by

Pietro Torrigiano c. 1509

President's Message

August 23, 2025



Hereditary societies were the backbone of our teaching of history for many, many years. That was the way of life before Vice President Al Gore invented the internet. If you wanted to know something about who you were, it was advised to see your aunt in the local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter, or more commonly known as the DAR, to get your answer. Whether it was in the early 1930s, or even today, the DAR had the info you needed. The same, I guess, could be said for the Society of the War of 1812, the Society of Colonial Wars, or the Mayflower Society. Today, I guess you could ask AI your question, bypassing the Aunts in the family, and get a quick response. That's modern life and that is where we are headed. Are our social or hereditary groups on the demise? Probably. But we must keep on promoting our groups, to keep what we know relevant, and to let our grandchildren know who we are and sadly, were. I guess we are anti AI for now. Its hard to let go.

A few years ago, before AI had become the norm in our life, a couple of guys were having lunch and discussing how to promote the Welsh lines in our families. One thing led to another and today, the St. David's Society of Savannah, is wanting to be your "Aunt" in the family (and that is without you having to hit the internet). The two guys, David Dickey and I, are getting on up in age, and we need more 'two guys' to get in the mix. Our children are probably tired of us pushing them into this group or that group. They are probably tired of us paying their membership dues for societies they are not interested in. And for sure, they could care less about attending an event during the heat of a summer day, at a gravesite, honoring a person who died in the 1800s. Our children are wired differently than those in the 40s or 50s. Remember those days before Al Gore's internet?

Being a member of the Welsh family in the SDS, we hope, is something of which you are proud. A feeling of wanting others to know about us goes a long way in making our Society relevant. And being a volunteer or supporter is just as important. We have great leaders coming up through the ranks, but typically, it is the same people that are also active in the other heritage groups in our community. They are all "Aunts" and that is truly great. But we need more. We need more members so that we can grow our own cadre of teachers of Welsh history. And we need more of our members to volunteer in our group. Wanting to move up in our ranks is warranted, but we need those aspirants in the interim also to help set up our events, make the calls for missed dues, and take notes when one is out for the day. After your growth in the inner workings of the group, you can become one of the 'two guys' and eventually a bona fide "Aunt."

So back to the children: I am not saying they are a lost cause. I pay the dues for our family as I know what I missed. It might not seem important today, but I can damn sure tell you it will be important in the future. We have to have something to which we cling. That is not something AI can provide. I would hope that the grandchildren, hanging out with the 'two guys' might remember something they learned from us, like how to hone a blade, and pass that onward. I would say our children would, but I guess we are too close to their immediate lifestyle; and, rather than argue or teach, we just let them AI or YouTube the answer. I fear the day when I change the personal info on the dues form for a society where the dues are being paid by parents. That means that the dues notices and meeting notices will thereafter go to them directly and we will no longer know if they have paid the dues or put it on their calendar. Will that be the day of demise for our Society? I hope not. We can't pass along the knowledge of how that old 1932 General Electric Ice Box ended up in our garage unless we TELL you that. I can for sure tell you that AI did not know that Big Momma bought Papa that contraption in the late 30's. I bet every dollar I got on that! I have a receipt for \$3,200.00 for the AC unit in my garage to help Big Momma's box keep running and survive another soon to be 100 years. AI did not know that either!

The Welsh family in our community needs that 'receipt' as well to show efforts are being made to keep our family lore relevant. St. David's Society wants to be your Aunt when you need to know. Not everyday is sunny for your solar panels. Not everyday is windy for your windmill. Not everyday is your gas tank full. And not every day are your power lines unbroken due to trees falling. That means not everyday AI is available. But guess who is? The 'two guys,' the 'Aunt,' and you, the grandparent. You might not have Grands today, but you probably will. If you have no power, I guess you can stay home and "Welsh" it. That is what we have done and that is why we are telling our story here and not via some damn AI.

Thanks for being a member of the St. David's Society of Savannah. We appreciate your membership and we do hope you will stay with us for a long time. Please allow your children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, and cousins to know about us. Ask them to join so they can help provide the Welsh receipts to their own. God bless you all for a great time over the past few years within the Welsh family. I am sure Bobby Groves, Bill Wessinger, Andy Calhoun, and Jenny White would say the same if they were still here with us.

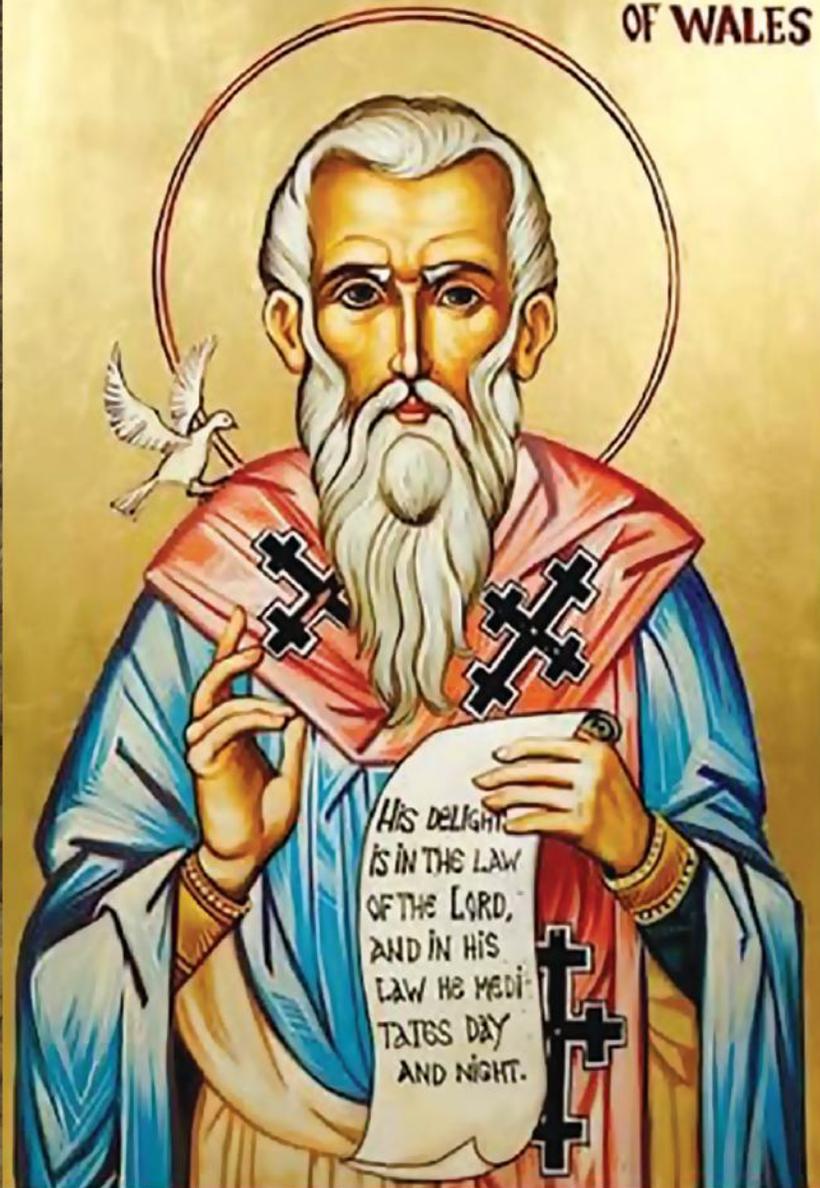
Signing out as your Regent but hoping to remain your "Aunt,"

R. Mitchell Bush

Regent and Hereditary High Sheriff of Anglesey & Lord Lieutenant

SAINT

DAVID
OF WALES



Patron Saint of Wales

St. David was a Welsh bishop who lived during the 6th century. His commitment to a life of piety and to spreading the Gospel throughout Britain ultimately led to his being canonized by Pope Callixtus II in 1120.

David was the son of a nun, Lady Non, who was raped by Prince Sant, the son of the King of Ceredigion. Lady Non went into hiding and ultimately went into labor on a cliff top during a terrible storm. At the time of David's birth, a bolt of lightning struck the rock on which Lady Non lay and split it in two.

David was a holy young man who loved the Lord and sang praises to God. He studied under Saint Paulinus. David miraculously cured Paulinus' sight by making a sign of the cross. Paulinus was told by an angel to send David to evangelize the pagan British.

Over his lifetime, David founded 12 monasteries and taught many pastors of the gospel. He followed a strict life of

piety eating only bread and vegetables and drinking only water.

According to legend, during a battle with the Saxons, David told the Welsh soldiers to wear leeks in their hats to distinguish them from their enemies. The Welsh were victorious and today the leek is a symbol of Wales.

David's most famous miracle occurred when preaching to a large crowd outdoors. The crowd was finding it impossible to hear. A dove came and landed on his shoulder and the ground rose up beneath him to form a hill so that all could hear him. David performed many other miracles, but possibly his greatest accomplishment was that he put down the Pelagian Heresy in Britain.

David is said to have invoked a council that ended the last vestiges of Pelagianism.

David died in Menevia at his monastery around 589 A.D. His last words were *"Be happy. Keep your faith and belief. Remember the little things you have heard and seen me do and do them."*

Jesse L. Petrea, III,
Founding Member



THE ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF SAVANNAH, INC.



Est. August 22, 2013

Savannah, Georgia, USA

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 Nicholas Llewellyn Henry, Ph. D.— Chancellor (2nd Vice-President / Ganghellor)
 Joe Kenneth Griffin, Jr., M.D.— Chamberlain (Secretary / Ysgrifennydd)
 Andrea Bell Missroom— Exchequer (Treasurer / Trysorlys)
 Harry Donival Dixon, Jr., Esq.— Justiciar (Judge Advocate / Eiriolwr barnwr)
 Kelin Eileen Murphy, Esq.— Parliamentarian (Seneddwr)
 Henry S. Morgan, Esq.— Sargeant at Arms (Sargeant yn breichiau)
 The Rev. George Bull Salley, Jr.— Vicar (Chaplain / Ficer)
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 Betsy Ann Knott Blalock— Archivist (Archifydd)
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 David Moore Thomas, M.D.— Surgeon (Meddyg)
 Antoine M. K. Gedroyc— Wizard (Website designer / Dewin)
 Catherine Clarke “Trinka” Dickey— Priestess (Website Maintainer / Offeiriades)
 Richard C. E. Jennings, Esq.— Public Relations / Ambassador (Seneschal)
 Carolyn Amanda Dickey— Alchemist (Photographer/ Photo editor / Alcemydd)

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2013-2016

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 John D. Sullivan— Lord Lieutenant & Sheriff of Cardiganshire
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2013-2016

Wesley Monroe Bush— David Bradford Dickey
 Harry Donival Dixon, III, Esq.— Steven Westgate, Brigadier General



Agenda

- Call to Order.....R. Mitchell Bush, Regent
Invocation & Welsh Blessing.....Deacon Bob (Rev. Dcn. Robert D. Fritts), Vicar
Pledge of Allegiance.....Rutledge G. Missroon, Exchequer
Welcome.....R. Mitchell Bush, Regent
Musicals.....Jenna Lyn Watkins, Soloist and Rhett Mouchet, Pianist
 Welsh National Anthem (Land of My Fathers) (“Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau”)
 God Bless America
Introduction of Special Guests, Officers, Sheriffs.....R. Mitchell Bush, Regent
Introduction of New Regent Roger W. Coursey, Capt. US Coast Guard Retired.....
 R. Mitchell Bush, Past Regent
Dinner with Music.....Jenna Lyn Watkins, Soloist and Rhett Mouchet, Pianist
Final Bar Call & Break.....Frank Hardeman, III, Chancellor
Introduction of Toasts: Casalotta Brut Spumante–Champagne (3 toasts)....Roger W. Coursey, Regent
 Famous Ancient Welshman: Llywelyn the Last
 David H. Dickey, Esq., Regent Emeritus
 Famous 20th Century Welsh Person: David Lloyd George
 Dr. Jack Eades, M.D., Sheriff of Denbighshire
 Saint David, Patron Saint of Wales
 Henry Morgan, Sargeant at Arms
Introduction of Speaker: David H. Dickey, Esq., Regent Emeritus
 Catherine Clarke (Trinka) Dickey, Founding Member & Archivist
Main Presentation: **Edwardian Conquest of Wales & Llywelyn ap Gruffudd**
 (Llywelyn the Last).....David H. Dickey, Esq., Regent Emeritus
Discussions & Presentations.....Roger W. Coursey, Regent
Welsh Prayer (see below) and Benediction, “Watchman Tell Us of the Night” (page 17)
 Deacon Bob (Rev. Dcn. Robert D. Fritts), Vicar
Concluding Toast, with Merlin’s Magical Potion.....Juliet Ann Hardeman, High Sheriff
 Offer by High Sheriff: “Let us begin the journey’ (Gadewch i ni ddechrau’r daith)
 Response by Membership: “To us, until August 22nd, next”
 (I ni, hyd nes 22 Awst, nesaf).....All Members (Pob Cymraeg)

Welsh Prayer

Grant us, o God, your protection; and in your protection, strength; and in strength, understanding; and in understanding, knowledge; and in knowledge, the knowledge of justice; and in the knowledge of justice, the love of justice; and in that love, the love of existence; and in the love of existence, the love of God, God and all goodness. Amen.



ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF SAVANNAH

The Battle of Bosworth Feast

Bara (Bread)

Carmarthen Molasses Annadama Bread with
Caramelized Leek Butter

Blasyn (Appetizer)

Trecoker Gwynedd gyda chaws Tunworth

Pysgod (Fish) Anglesey Seabass

Draenog y mor Bronzino Ynys Mon

Achwyniad (Beef) Hanger Steak

Stec crogwr Cymreig

LLysiau (Vegetable) Parsley Roasted Potato & Leek Caserole

Tatws rhost persli; Caserol cennin

Pembrokeshire Letys Cymreig (Salad) Welsh Lettuce & Leek

Salad Letys a chenin gyda gwisgo gwyrdd dduwies

Pwdin Eva (Dessert) Glamorgan Apple Crisp a la mode

Crisp afel fel petai Glamorgan

Merlin's Magical Potion (Diod hudolus Merlin) -

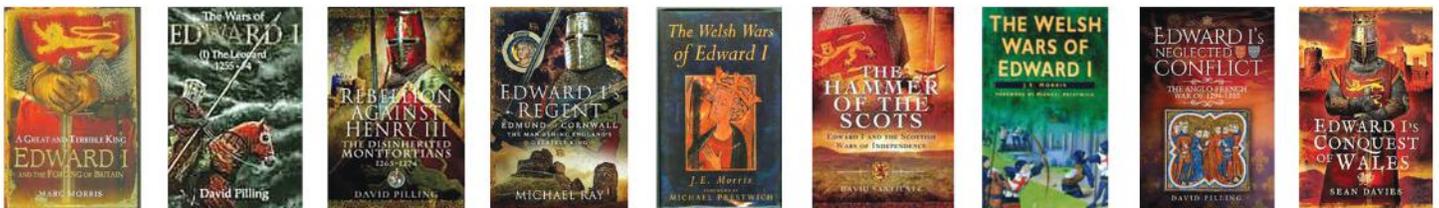
Conwy Coffee-Druid Decaf- by Request



David H. Dickey

David is the Co-Founder, Incorporator, and First Regent of the St. David's Society. Tonight he speaks to us on the Edwardian Conquest of Wales and Llywelyn the Last. David is a partner in the Savannah law firm of Oliver Maner, LLP where he specializes in Wills, Trusts, Estates, Business Entities, Mergers & Acquisitions, Sales of Businesses, and Fiduciary Litigation. David is Past President of the Savannah Estate Planning Council, a member of the American College of Trust & Estate Counsel and has been listed in Best Lawyers in America, Super Lawyers, Georgia's Legal Elite, and Nation's Top One Percent. David is also a CPA and an Accredited Estate Planner.

David is a member of the St. Andrews' Society, the Society of Colonial Wars, the German Heritage Society, The German Friendly Society, The 1812 Society, the Coastal Scottish Heritage Society, and First Families of South Carolina. He is a member and has served as past president of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of GA, L'Alliance Francaise de Savannah, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Military Order of the Stars & Bars, and Sons of the American Revolution. David has served as Judge Advocate, Chaplain, and Historian of many of the groups in which he is a member and has also served as the Historian of the National Society of the Sons of the Revolution in America.



The Symbolism of the Great Seal of the Society

The Seal reveals a lot about the character of St. David; he has a halo to represent his sainthood and possession of the Holy Spirit, and a crown of crosses in the oval image to show that Christ ruled his life as his King. He is shown playing the harp (as he did) and serenading the angels with the ancient, national musical instrument of Wales.

The Seal contains the motto of the State of Georgia, the home State of the Society: "Non Sibi-Sed Aliis" (or "Not for ourselves, but for others"). It displays the Lion in front of the Cotton Exchange to show it is a Savannah-based Society; the Lion of Judah was front and center in St. David's life and the water pouring from its mouth represents the Holy Spirit's baptismal water of life, apropos for Aquaticus, the Saint of life-giving water.

The Cotton Exchange, adorned by classical columns, stands for family and tribal tradition. It has the year the Society was established, 2013. (The Society was founded on August 22, 2013, the anniversary of the Battle of Bosworth Field when the Welsh took over the English throne.) It proudly presents the Welsh Dragon, with a stinger-tail to thwart the Romans, Angles, Saxons, Vikings, Normans and any other enemies which have tried to subdue the brave Cymri, as well as a "breath of fire" to immolate any would-be conqueror of the Celts; it shows the Dragon's sharp claws digging into the circular orb, gathering the earth to itself, representing the diasporic spread of the Welsh across the planet, while always clutching tightly to the inspiring power of Celtic artwork; and the mystical wings of flight transporting the Druidic Culture throughout the world; it has Celtic knotwork to show it emanates from a creative, vibrant, art-loving People; and it has the full legal name of the Society encompassing, in conjunction with Celtic artwork, the afore-described themes circumscribed in the inner sanctum of the two circles (heaven & earth) of the Society's Great Seal.



—David H. Dickey, Esq., Founding Regent & Designer of the Seal

Society Officers

2025-2027

Regent/Lywyddion, Capt. Roger W. Coursey, USCG Retired
1st Vice President/Viceroy/Is-Roi, James Joseph Dawson
2nd Vice President/Chancellor/Ganghellor, Frank Hardeman, III
Secretary/Chamberlain/Ysgrifennydd, Jolly M. Bush
Treasurer/Exchequer/Trysorlys, Rutledge G. Missroon
Judge Advocate/Justiciar/Eiriolwr barnwr, Hon. Judge Lamar W. Davis, Jr., Esq.
Parliamentarian/Senneddwr, Henry S. Morgan, Esq.
Sergeant at Arms/Sergeant yn breichiau, Henry S. Morgan, Esq.
Chaplain / Ficer, Deacon Robert D. Fritts, Sr.
Historian / Bardd, Kyle E. Eckman
Archivist/Archifydd, Catherine Clarke (Trinka) Dickey
Genealogist/Achyddwr, H. Ronald Freeman
Surgeon/Meddyg, Joe Kenneth Griffin, Jr., M.D.
Public Relations/Ambassador/Seneschal, Richard C. E. (Skip) Jennings, Esq.
Color Guard Captain, Brig. General Steven Westgate, USAF Retired
Wizard, John Miller (non member), Website Maintenance
Alchemist, Paul Camp (non member)



Past Regents:

Founding Regent, David H. Dickey, Esq. (2013-2017)
Co-Regents, Harry Donival Dixon, Esq. & Elizabeth Toning Dixon, Dr. P.H. (2017-2019)
Nora O'Leary Missroon (2019-2022)
R. Mitchell Bush (2022-2025)



Society of Sheriffs

2025-2027

High Sheriff, Sheriff of Anglesey, Juliet Ann Hardeman
Sheriff of Breconshire, Jennifer Lynn Rutherford
Sheriff of Caernarfonshire, Sue Grantham Chisholm
Sheriff of Cardiganshire, Amy E. Mayo
Sheriff of Carmarthenshire, Jolly Bush
Sheriff of Denbighshire, Jack R. Eades, M.D.
Sheriff of Flintshire, Deacon Robert D. Fritts, Sr.
Sheriff of Glamorganshire, Lee F. Morgan
Sheriff of Merionethshire, Robert Lucas Missroon, Jr.
Sheriff of Monmouthshire, Elizabeth Morgan Westgate
Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, Rita Williamson Butler
Sheriff of Pembrokeshire, Catherine Derst Miller
Sheriff of Radnorshire, Todd Hunter Martin
Hereditary Lord Lieutenant & High Sheriff of Anglesey, R. Mitchell Bush



Society Color Guard

2025-2027

Steven Westgate, Brig. Gen. (R) • Wesley Monroe Bush
Robert Lucas Missroon, III • Daniel O'Leary Missroon

David Lloyd George

David Lloyd George (1863- 1945)

"It is a worthy aim to promote yourself by benefitting others."

David George was raised by his widowed mother and shoemaker uncle Richard Lloyd in Llanstumdy, Caernarfonshire Northwest Wales near Caernarfon Castle site of investiture of the Prince of Wales. Richard Lloyd was also a lay minister to nonconformists (Baptists, etc.) with an extensive library to which he exposed young David George. Such was his influence that his surname was taken by our subject hence David Lloyd George. Two distinct social classes inhabited the area, the Welsh speaking working class who worshiped as nonconformists and the Anglo-Welsh gentry landowners who were Church of England congregants. The class prejudices profoundly shaped David Lloyd George's life and politics. Lloyd George departed school aged 14, was apprenticed to a solicitor (attorney), later aged 20 passed the law exam becoming a solicitor and established a law firm with his brother. He made a name for himself in the case of a nonconformist who was denied burial in an Anglican church cemetery, This jumpstarted his political career. After serving as a local alderman, he won the parliamentary by-election for Caernarfon Boroughs as a Liberal in 1890 upon the death of the incumbent conservative by less than 20 votes. He remained a MP for this constituency until 1945. Along the way he married Margaret Owen but explained to her in a letter that *"nothing except perhaps honesty will stand in the way of getting on"* with his career. They had five children; but she preferred Wales to London so they were often apart. Early parliamentary years were difficult; he was not paid as a "backbencher" and had to practice law in London to support his family.



Lloyd George came to national prominence as an opponent of the Boer War. Initially this was a very unpopular position leading to riots. However, as the war dragged on most came to agree with him attracting the notice of the leaders of his Liberal party who were in power and he was made Minister of the Board of Trade. He succeeded in having the Merchant Ship Acts passed reforming conditions for sailors and by clever negotiation averted a railroad strike. He was rewarded with the Chancellor of the Exchequer position by Prime Minister Herbert Asquith in 1908. Success followed success as he broke the power of the House of Lords in his war on poverty and eventually succeeded in getting the People's Budget passed with help from his friend Winston Churchill who at that time was a Liberal. The results were the National Insurance Act, Unemployment Insurance, National Health Insurance, Old Age Pensions and the birth of the Welfare State.

World War I followed. Lloyd George was named Minister of Munitions to deal with faulty ammunition hampering the British war effort. He performed well improving quality control and creating a large female workforce making ammunition. Due to his success, he was named Secretary of State for War in 1916, and ultimately replaced Prime Minister Asquith in December 1916 holding office until 1922. He became Prime Minister at a turning point in the war bringing hope and confidence by both his competence and inspiring speeches. He stated he *"envied the young men being able to serve"* and advocated they *"create a fit country for heroes to live in."* Massively popular, he was proclaimed *"the man who won the war."* He won a landslide reelection in 1918 leading a coalition of Conservatives and splintered Liberals.

Then things became increasingly difficult. Although hugely influential at the Versailles Treaty, ultimately the results were negative. The Irish rebellion led to the infamous black and tans and later partition into Ulster and the Irish Free State. Post War privation and unemployment were rampant. In 1919, Lloyd George rejected the recommendation to nationalize coal mining, convincing Welsh miners he had abandoned them to business interests. In June 1922 attempting to raise campaign funds, he was scandalised for offering honors for sale: 10000 pounds for a knighthood; 50000 for a seat in the House of Lords. He was defeated for reelection as Prime Minister in October 1922 by the Conservative Bonar Law. David Lloyd George was the last Liberal Party Prime Minister, and although he retained his seat in parliament, he never reached similar heights again.

A great Welshman to be sure, David Lloyd George leaves both legacy and controversy. He is the only Welshman, solicitor and member of the working class to serve as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Two statues flank the entrance to the debating chamber of the House of Commons: Lloyd George and Winston Churchill, fitting for such gifted orators. However, in addition to selling honors, he was involved in insider trading with the Marconi company on the eve of World War I and narrowly avoided punishment due to the Liberal majority in parliament. Inexplicably, he accepted an invitation to visit Adolf Hitler in 1936. Late in life upon his wife Margeret's death, he married his longtime mistress and private secretary, Francis Stevenson. When encouraging military service during WWI, he privately wrote his wife to instruct their sons not to volunteer. Much to the chagrin of CAMRA, he is the reason pubs close at 11 pm as he felt alcohol harmed the war effort. Some blame him for excesses of the welfare state, but he certainly championed the rights of the: elderly; infirmed; common man; women; and disaffected.



Jack R. Eades, M.D.
Founding Member & Sheriff of Denbighshire

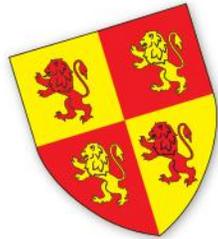
Llywelyn ap Gruffydd



In 1066, William the Conqueror won the decisive, monumental battle of Hastings and then proceeded to roll across England with relative ease. The rugged terrain of northern Wales and the fierce independence of the Welsh people made the Norman conquest of Wales extraordinarily difficult. Early in the 13th century, Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, a/k/a Llewelyn the Great, married Joan, the illegitimate daughter of King John, and through a series of intrigues, sided with the nobles in their revolt against King John who was forced to sign the Magna Carter in 1215. King John died in 1216 and was succeeded by Henry III. With the aid of these nobles, Llewelyn the Great was able to keep King John and his son at bay and to consolidate control over other princes of Wales, a position he would hold until his death in 1240.

After Llywelyn the Great's death, things began to unravel for the Welsh when Llywelyn the Great's son, Dafydd, inherited his father's position. Dafydd, fearing assaults upon his power, turned his own kinsmen, Gruffydd (his brother) and Owain (his nephew), over to Henry III as hostages. Gruffydd, the brother of Dafydd and father of Llewelyn ap Gruffydd (aka "Llewelyn the Last") fell 90' feet to his death while trying to escape from the Tower of London. Llewelyn ap Gruffydd later came to the aid of his uncle, Dafydd, in fighting the English, but, when Dafydd died in 1246, Llywelyn the Last was able to take over his uncle's lands and titles. Llewelyn was then able, through skill and diplomacy, to keep the English from conquering Wales during the

rest of the life of the ineffectual Henry III, who died in 1272.



The Arms of
Llywelyn ap Gruffydd

However, Henry's son, Edward I, aka the "Longshanks," was not as pusillanimous as his father. After returning from the crusades, the Longshanks declared Llewelyn ap Gruffydd a traitor in 1277, and led a large army into Northern Wales; he simultaneously sent a second force to Anglesey to seize the island and the bountiful food harvest there. Llewelyn's resistance was bold and forceful but, by year end, he was forced to conclude the Treaty of Aberconwy which gave him the lands of Gwynedd only west of the Conwy River; while the lands of Gwynedd east of the Conwy

were given to a more compliant vassal, Llewelyn's younger brother, also named Daffydd (like his uncle). Following this Treaty, Edward began a program of building Norman stone castles around Gwynedd, encircling Llewelyn's diminishing power base. In 1282, Dafydd, the younger brother, began an offensive against Edward's oppressive tax system in Wales. Edward once more besieged Gwynedd from the East and sent his trusted commander, Luke de Tany, to capture Anglesey and its full harvest again. De Tany then became overconfident and, without waiting to join forces with Edward, attempted to cross the Straits of Menai to attack Llewelyn on the mainland. Llewelyn intercepted him on the waterway with a much larger force, and at the Battle of Moel-y-don on November 6th drove them into the sea. An English chronicler of the battle recorded:

"The Welsh came from the high mountains and attacked them, and in fear and trepidation for the great number of the enemy, our men preferred to face the sea than the enemy. They went into the sea, but heavily laden with arms, they were instantly drowned."

After this stunning victory, Llewelyn moved south and engaged an alliance of English Marcher Lords and traitorous Welsh princes at the Battle of Orewin Bridge on December 11, 1282. The English cavalry and archers subdued the Welsh spearmen. Llewelyn was separated from his men and killed at Cilmeri by an English soldier who did not recognize him. He was decapitated and his head displayed on the Gatehouse of the Tower of London for 15 years. His brother, Dafydd, was captured 6 months later and hung, drawn and quartered. After all Welsh resistance was vanquished, Edward stormed into Gwynedd and confiscated all royal regalia, claiming the title of Prince of Wales for his effete son, Edward II, a title that endures to this day. Llewelyn was the last native Prince of Wales. With him vanished Welsh independence (though wars would continue for centuries). Had Llewelyn the Last not been killed in battle, but had been able to continue his powerful resistance, history might have known him as "Llewelyn the Greatest." After all, he kept the Normans at bay for three dozen years!



The Llywelyn Monument at
Cilmeri near Builth Wells,
erected in 1956



Fanciful sculpture of Llywelyn
by Henry Alfred Pegram,
Cardiff City Hall

David H. Dickey,
Founding Regent

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Phyllis G. Hardeman • Muriel Bunney Henry • Charles Wayne Holley, Jr., M.D.
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John Hampton Saussy • Geoffrey Perrin Smith, C.P.A. • Shawna Yeomans Staton, Esq.
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Class of 2024

Ewell Samuel Byrd • William Emmett Copeland • William Sebastian Hancock



Invocation

Creator God

Who breathed this world into being
Who is discernible within
The harmony of nature,
The perfection of a butterfly's wing,
The grandeur of a mountain range,
The soaring eagle and hummingbird,
Thank you for this world
Which you have created.
Thank you for the summer sun,
Which reminds us
That your creative breath
Is still alive and active.
Thank you for the warmth of your love,
Sustaining the world,
Your garden.
Amen.

Snowden Mountain...

Refuge from
the Romans,
the Saxons and,
the Normans



What are the Secrets & Symbolism in our Membership Medal?

Our Membership medal (page 13) shows a Red Dragon (Welsh); it has gold artwork to represent royalty of the Tudor Kings and the ancient Cymric jewelers, the envy of the world; the dragon sits on the ocean with waves (in bluish-green) and spans the sky as well, covering the whole globe, symbolic of the diaspora of the Welsh to all nations of Earth. The date, name and Celtic knots are the same as in the Great Seal of the Society; there is a hidden message (in Welsh) in the lapping waves; please take the time to find it with a magnifying glass and look it up in a Welsh-to-English translation app. Google has a free one. See <https://www.translate.com/welsh-english>

David H. Dickey, Designer of the Membership Medal, and Founding Regent



Robert Walker Groves, III

May 09, 1949 - August 14, 2024



Bobby was born in Savannah on May 9, 1949 to Robert and Cornelia Groves. He was a graduate of Blue Ridge School in Saint George, Virginia and the University of Georgia and served in the Georgia Air National Guard.

A proud Scotsman, Bobby had a deep interest in his family heritage and Scottish ancestry from a young age. He attended the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games from the age of six and went on to serve as a board member for many years. He recently received the Agnes MacRae Morton Award for his outstanding commitment to those games. His desire to preserve Sottish heritage and interest in genealogy and history drove him to join several organizations. He made invaluable contributions to the St. Andrew's Society of Savannah where he served as President, and the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Georgia where he held roles as Governor and Deputy Governor General. Bobby was a Founding Member of the St. David's Society. He was also an active member of The Society of Cincinnati and many other heritage societies, continuing a long line of leadership within his family.

Within Savannah, Bobby was involved with the Sailing Center, 1996 Olympic Yachting and coaching of youth sports. He also played a vital role in the founding of The Savannah Bank as one of the organizers and later serving as a director of the bank.

He followed in his grandfather's footsteps becoming the 3rd generation involved with Strachan Shipping Company. He enjoyed the shipping industry and worked with the company until it closed.



Andrew Pickens Calhoun, Jr.

February 23, 1953 – October 31, 2024



Andrew Pickens Calhoun was the son of the late Andrew Pickens and Nancy Hull Nichols Calhoun. He was an 8th generation Savannahian but South Carolina was a fundamental part of his DNA. Andy was educated in local schools and was the third generation of his family to attend his beloved Clemson University. After college, Andy embarked on a forty year business career, all in his home town, working in the Port of Savannah with Diamond Manufacturing Company and The Atlantic Towing Company. Prior to his retirement in 2012, he served 26 years with Colonial Terminals, Incorporated which, during that period, accomplished unprecedented growth and success.

A passionate historian and genealogist, Andy and his wife, Milree, compiled over 65,000 Calhoun and associated family names in their genealogy database. Andy gave several presentations on the Colquhoun/Calhoun migration from Scotland to Ireland to America as well. He was "Aye, a Bonnie Scot" and a long time member of The Saint Andrew's Society of Savannah. Milree, who passed away on May 14, 2025, always attended St. David's Society events with Andy.

Andy was extremely proud of his ancestors involvement in establishing America and was a member of The Society of the Cincinnati, The Sons of the Revolution in the State Georgia, Sons of Confederate Veterans, The Military Order of the Stars and Bars, and The Huguenot Society of South Carolina. In 2018, he edited and published "My Own Darling Wife: Letters from a Confederate Volunteer," a collection of letters written by his great-grandfather to his great-grandmother during the first year of the War Between the States. Andy was a direct lineal descendent of Revolutionary Brigadier General Andrew Pickens of Abbeville, South Carolina, as well as of Patrick Calhoun, the father of the United States' Vice President and Secretary of War, John C. Calhoun, of Abbeville, SC.



Virginia Smith White, Ed.D.

September 16, 1936 - June 12, 2025

Savannah and the Society bid farewell to one of their most distinguished minds, Virginia Smith White, Ed.D., who passed away on June 12, 2025 at her home on Isle of Hope, leaving an indelible mark on the world of education and community service. Born on September 16, 1936, in Shreveport, LA, Virginia became affectionately known as Jenny. At an early age, it was revealed that learning and teaching would be her passion. By the age of three, she had already learned the Greek alphabet and was often found lining her dolls up on the front porch to teach them important doll lessons. Always surrounded by books, she was an avid reader with a near photographic memory.

Jenny's intellectual journey was extraordinary. She earned her B.A. in English from Vanderbilt University, followed by an Education and Teaching Certificate from Peabody College. Her obsession with learning led her to Emory University, where she obtained her Master's degree, and later to the University of Georgia, where she distinguished herself, achieving a Doctorate in Education in record time.

Embarking on a career in education, Jenny initially served as the Head of the English Department at Effingham County Consolidated High School, winning the hearts of her students. Her commitment to excellence and passion for teaching led her to become the Chairman of the English Department at Cross Keys High School in Atlanta, all while pursuing advanced studies at Emory University. Joining the Faculty at Armstrong State College, Jenny continued to inspire and educate, receiving accolades such as the Outstanding Faculty Award from the Armstrong Alumni's Choice and the Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Teaching. Her retirement from the English Department was met with the prestigious title of Assistant Professor of English, Emerita, a testament to the skill and passion that she brought to the classroom. Through the years, her pride and joy were the numerous former students that would approach her to express their gratitude for the impact that she had on their lives. Beyond academia, Jenny emerged as a community leader, presiding over the Florence Crittendon Foundation and playing a pivotal role in consolidating the Savannah Home for Girls with the Crittendon Foundation. A board member of the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of Chatham County, and the Metro YMCA, she was also a trailblazer: she was the first woman to gain membership in the Kiwanis Club of Savannah.

Jenny's passion extended to genealogy, where she was a respected member of various societies, including the Jamestowne Society, the Huguenot Society of America, Sons and Daughters of Virginia Founding Fathers, First Families of Tennessee, the Order of Descendants of Colonial Physicians and Surgeons and the Saint David's Society of Savannah.

Dr. Virginia S. White is survived by her husband, James (Jim) White, also a Member of the Saint David's Society.



William Nettles Wessinger, MD

March 25, 1947 - February 20, 2025

Bill grew up in Columbia, South Carolina, graduated from The Citadel with a major in Chemistry, graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina and finished his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Duke University School of Medicine. After graduating from Duke, Bill moved to Savannah to begin practice with Orthopedics Associates in 1981 (which later merged with Optim Orthopedics). He practiced orthopedics for over 23 years. He was one of the best orthopedic surgeons in the area and cared greatly for his patients, forming lasting friendships with many of them. In 2013, Bill was elected Chatham County Coroner, a position he held for 8 years.

Bill was very proud of his ancestors and was a member of several societies: the Huguenot Society of South Carolina, the German Heritage Society, the French Society, the Society of The High Hills of the Santee, SC. , and a Founding Member of the St. David's Society,

He was also a member of The Oglethorpe Club, The Cotillion Club, The Century Club, and past member of The Chatham Club.

ANNUAL MEETING

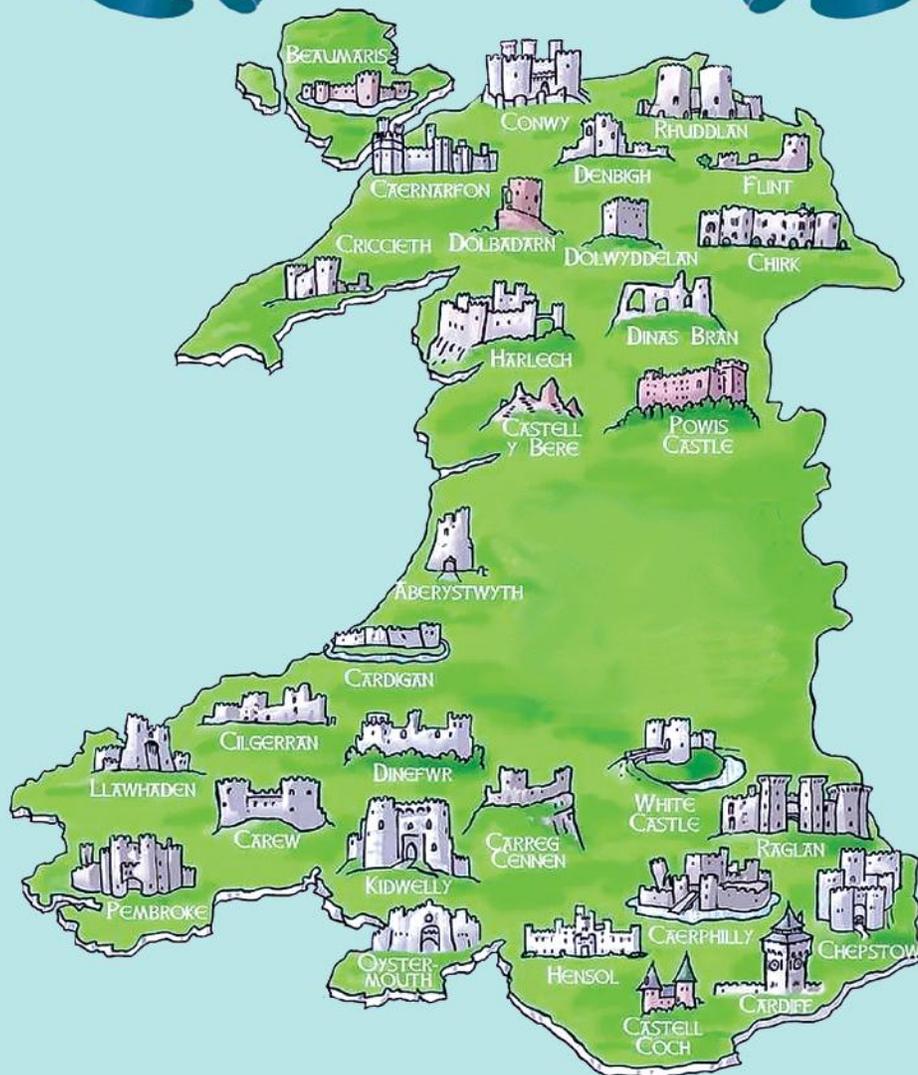
Annual Meeting & Tasting

June 28, 2025

July 22, 2025



CASTLES OF WALES



Watchman/Tell Us of the Night

Hymn Lyrics by John Bowring (1792-1872);

Tune: "Aberystwyth" by Joseph Parry (1841-1903)

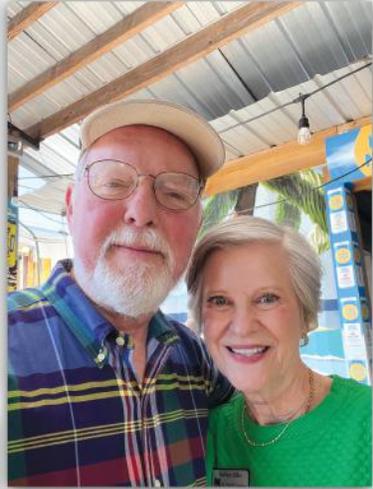
Watchman, tell us of the night,
 What its signs of promise are.
 Traveller, o'er yon mountain's height,
 See that glory beaming star.
 Watchman, does its beauteous ray
 Aught of joy or hope foretell?
 Traveller, yes it brings the day,
 Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night;
 Higher yet that star ascends.
 Traveler, blessedness and light,
 Peace and truth its course portends.
 Watchman, will its beams alone
 Gild the spot that gave them birth?
 Traveler, ages are its own;
 See, it bursts o'er all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night,
 For the morning seems to dawn.
 Traveller, darkness takes its flight,
 Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
 Watchman, let thy wanderings cease
 Go thee to thy quiet home.
 Traveller, lo! the Prince of Peace,
 Lo! the Son of God is come!

OYSTER ROAST

Mar. 1, 2025
Coach's Corner



TUDOR BALL

August 24, 2024
Savannah Yacht Club



TUDOR BALL



TUDOR BALL





Welsh National Anthem

WELSH ENGLISH

Mae hen wlad fy nhadau yn annwyl i mi, Gwlad beirdd a chantorion, enwogion o fri: Ei gwrol ryfelwyr gwladgarwyr tra mad, Tros ryddid collasant eu gwaed.	Land of my fathers so precious to me. Proud mother of poets and singers, high home of the free: The fame of her heroes Patriots much blessed, Spilt their blood for freedom.
Gwlad! Gwlad! pleidiol wyf i'm gwlad. Tra mor yn fur i'r bur hoff bau, o bydded i'r heniaith barhau	Homeland! Wales! -- ever my heart is in Wales. In thy good grace Lord keep our race, Our language, our hills and our vales.

Purposes of the Society

The goals, objectives and purposes of the Society are: to perpetuate awareness and appreciation of Welsh history, traditions and culture and the contributions of Wales and the Welsh people to local, regional and national development in the United States and the State of Georgia; to educate the Members of the Society about Welsh history, heritage and culture; to encourage genealogical research by the Society's Members; to promote social intercourse and an altruistic spirit among its Members and between its Members and the community they serve; to promote, foster, maintain and support Welsh heritage and social welfare through community involvement and appropriate charitable contributions and aid to individuals, groups and organizations which have been approved by the Society for assistance; and to possess and exercise all the powers conferred by the State of Georgia on Non-Profit Corporations.

—David H. Dickey, Esq., Incorporator & Founding Regent & Drafter of the Purposes

The Significance of the Ribbons Representative of Positions in Our Organization

MEMBERS

FOUNDING MEMBERS

OFFICERS

COLOR GUARD

PAST HIGH SHERIFFS

SHERIFFS

PAST REGENTS

Special Thanks to:

David H. Dickey, Speaker

R. Mitchell Bush and the Officers *For their exemplary leadership and guidance*

James Joseph Dawson & the Sheriffs *For their outstanding stewardship*

The Savannah Yacht Club *Especially Chef Billy Kistler & Event Coordinator, Marquis Roberts*

David H. Dickey, Founding Regent & Rick Ross *Programme Editors*

John Miller *At Data Services of Georgia For Maintaining the Society's website*

Paul Camp *Of Paul Camp Photography for the 2024 Tudor Ball Photographs*

Chip Grayson *Lewis Color for Printing of the Programmes*

Ed Chapman *At Bahama Joe's/Commemorative Glasses & Napkins*

Jenna Lyn Watkins & Rhett Mouchet *For the Celtic Dinner Music & Songs*

Beth Westgate & Her Committee *For the "War of the Roses" Floral Arrangements*

Juliet Ann Hardeman, High Sheriff & Roger W. Coursey, Regent *For the Door Prizes*

Kyle Edward Eckmann *For Facebook Page Management*

Musicians

Jenna Lyn Watkins

Jenna Lyn Watkins is both a real estate agent and skilled musician. Her extensive musical background as a classically trained musician, Board Certified Music Therapist, and Grief Counselor allows her to connect deeply, whether she's performing opera, directing a choir, writing songs, or captivating audiences with Anne Allman at The Steakhouse on Whitmarsh Island. She often performs for local heritage societies such as the French Society, the Hibernian Society, the Italian Society, and the Society of Colonial Wars. Jenna can be reached by email at jenna@parkerscottproperties.com. Or by cell at 478-234-0144.



Rhett Mouchet

Rhett Mouchet is a commercial real estate broker and an accomplished piano player. He studied with various music teachers and began playing various music venues at age Fourteen. He learned and played all types of music and traveled as a teenager throughout the Southeast with various bands to major colleges, night clubs and other music venues. In 1965 he and a local singing/music group performed at the New York World Fair and a year later traveled to Eastern Europe for a five country music tour. Prior to College at Georgia Southern, Rhett played the Greenville, SC night club scene (six nights a week for many months) and backed up several well known musicians as they traveled the south. LaVerne Baker, Roy Hamilton, Brenda Byers were just a few. He remained in the music world playing various gigs at Harbor Towne and Fripp Island, mostly solo jazz. In 2005, he received a very surprising phone call asking him to play a "reunion concert" with a few of his old music buddies from Statesboro. This phone call, and the concert, was a "life changer" and Rhett has stayed active with various bands and solo engagements since that time. Many of his solo engagements involve local Societies, Historical Organizations and Award Celebrations including those mentioned in Jenna's biological sketch, above. Some of the most rewarding times are times spent playing for non-profits, churches and for assisted living residents as well as the Ruth Byck Senior Citizens Center on Bull Street. Throughout the past twenty five years, Rhett has spent the majority of his Sunday mornings playing at "Church." Rhett can be reached by email at <mailto:rhett.mouchet@colliers.com>. or phone: (912) 713-4341

ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF SAVANNAH: StDavidSavannah.com • **ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY FACEBOOK:** facebook.com/stdavidsavannah

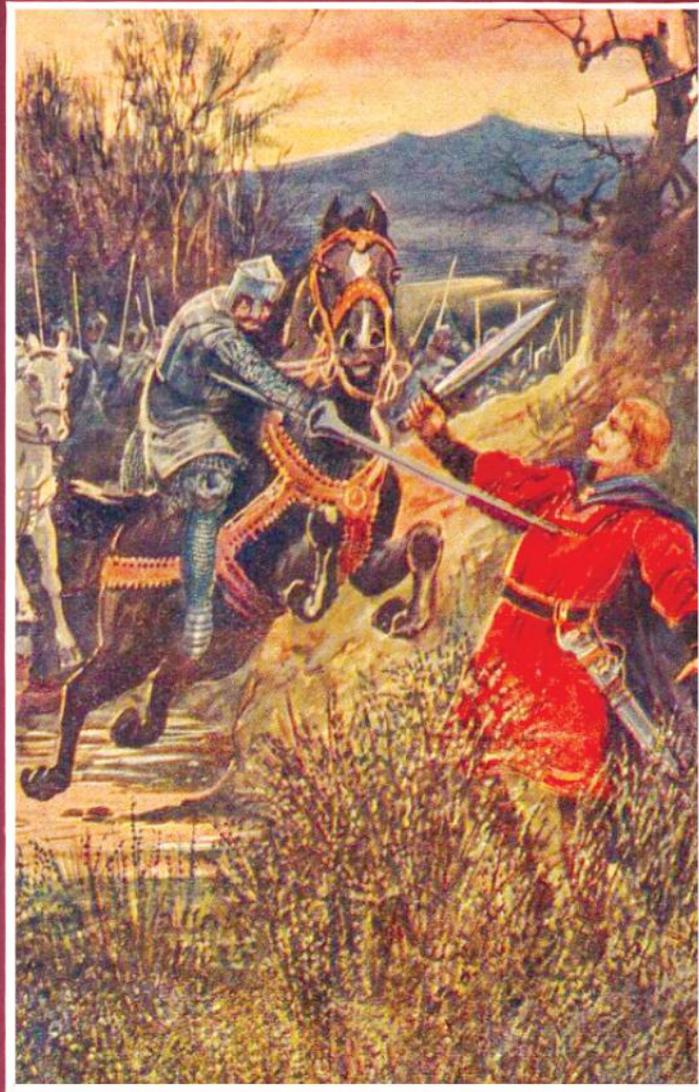
AMERICYMU SOCIETY: americymru.net/ • **WELSH CULTURE SITE:** Wales.com/about/culture

WELSH CASTLES: castlewales.com • **WELSH GIFTS:** welshgifts.co.uk

WELSH TARTANS: welsh-tartan.com • **FAMOUS WELSH AMERICANS:** en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Welsh_Americans

FAMOUS WELSH PEOPLE: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Welsh_people

LIST OF WELSH FAMILY SURNAMES (for prospective members): drwilliams.org/iDoc/welsh%20names/index.php



The Death of Llewelyn The Last (Llewelyn ap Gruffydd)
at Cilmeri near Builth Wells Dec. 11, 1282