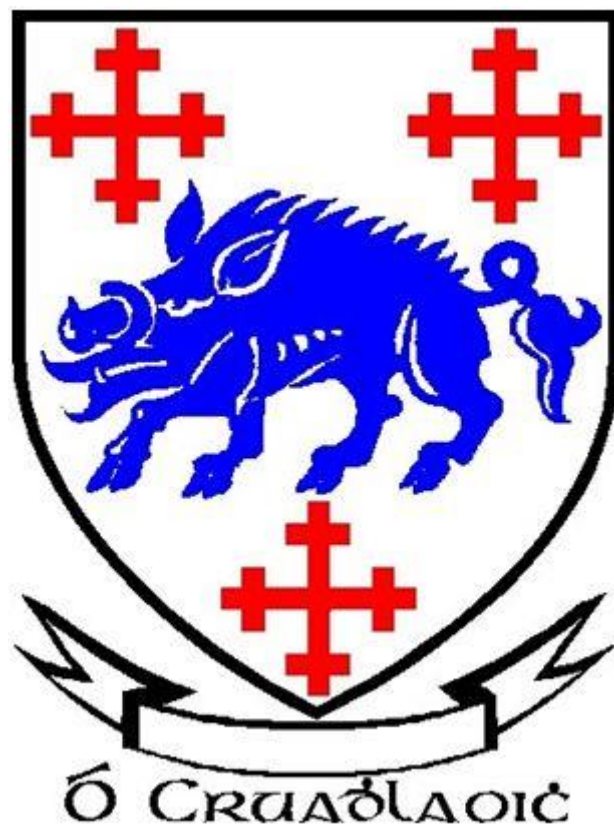


CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

July 2004

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



Letter from the Crowley Clan Taoiseach

In less than three months many of us will be in Bantry, County Cork for our 2004 Crowley Clan Gathering. This gathering promises to be well attended and we are assured of an activity filled weekend thanks to the hard work of the Crowley Clan Committee.

Those in Bantry for the first time will make many new friends and rediscover their Crowley heritage. We who are returning will enjoy renewing acquaintances from past Crowley Clan Gatherings.

The details and program for the gathering can be found on the web site www.crowleyclan.com and in the March issue of the Crowley Clan Newsletter. We certainly hope that many of you will be able to stay in Ireland for a while afterwards and enjoy the beauty of the country and the friendship of the Irish people.

Slán agus beannacht leat Good-bye and blessings on you

Tom Crowley
An Taoiseach

Origin of the Crowley Name

*Compiled & Researched by Joseph Crowley,
born near Kilmihil, retired to Cork City*

The ancestral home of the Crowleys is West Cork. One of the surviving Crowley Castles may be seen in the vicinity of the town of Dunmanway. It is interesting to note how the O'Crowley got his name. King Brian Boru's army at Clontarf (Good Friday, 1014 A.D.) consisted mainly of Claremen, South Galwaymen and Munstermen. Among the Munstermen was the O'Crowley and his clansmen from Desmond. They had the reputation of being tough, hard-fighting men. O'Crowley's troops at Clontarf were close to King Brian's tent. They occupied the high ground overlooking Dublin Bay and formed the core of his reserve troops.

Tradition records that Clontarf was a very bloody battle with victory ebbing and flowing every hour, the Irish and the Danes being bowled over like ninepins. Despite the rigours of old age, King Brian quickly assessed the situation, and fearing stalemate, sent for the O'Crowley and said: Amois, a Cruadh Laoich, taisbean dom neart do laimhe (Now, Hard Warrior, show me the strength of your hand). Tradition further relates that the O'Crowley and his clansmen tore into battle and, after hard fighting, broke the back of the Danish resistance.

From Marian's Desk

It's time to start packing for Ireland. Walking shoes. Check. Raincoat. Check. Camera. Check. Film. Check. Genealogy. Check, check, check. Hope springs eternal. Maybe this time I will finally find those elusive Crowley ancestors!

I remember my first trip to West Cork. I was sure it wouldn't be all that difficult. After all, I had my great grandfather's name, John Crowley. I had his parents' names, Timothy Crowley and Catherine Monahan. I had Catherine's birthplace, Scully Parish, County Cork. And I had John's birth date, 17 March 1848. What more could I possibly need?

First of all I needed correct information which I obviously didn't have. I'd taken most of what I had from a printed genealogy done by a relative. There is no Scully Parish in Cork. But there is a Schull Parish. One of the most common names there is Minahane, not Monahan. There were hundreds of Irish immigrants who used St. Patrick's Day as their birth date. And two of the most common names in West Cork are John Crowley and Timothy Crowley.

With so little to go on it is no wonder that I made no progress on that trip in 1995. The good news was that I met so many interesting Crowleys that I didn't mind at all. Everyone at that Crowley Gathering was my cousin. I felt right at home. And I was.

This trip I plan to walk some old cemeteries in the areas I think my Crowleys came from. I plan to take lots of pictures of those places and talk to lots of people there. I hope to have time to visit the Heritage Center in Skibbereen. Unfortunately I won't have time to visit the National Library in Dublin.

Father Tom Hayes, who maintains the Cork and Ross Diocese website, advises genealogists, "Because browsing the (parish) register is time consuming, most local clergy are reluctant to search for records without very specific dates." But if you have the time, all baptism records prior to 1890 have been microfilmed and are available for research at the National Library in Dublin. Happy hunting, and I hope to see you in Bantry.

Slán, Marian

Clarification of the Fee Schedule for the Crowley Clan Gathering This September

The Crowley Clan Committee reports that there has been some misunderstanding about the fee structure for the Crowley Clan Gathering this coming September. If you did not prepay before June 1, there is still time to send your payment to your country representative before August 1. Or you can pay when you arrive at the gathering in Bantry. To clarify, the fee structure is as follows:

€150 per person for:

- Music and entertainment for three nights
- The banquet on Saturday night
- Bus hire for two and half days
- Insurance for castle visits and road bowling (required)
- Offerings for Mass Rock site
- Contribution for two Castle site visits
- Printing, advertising, name tags, and guest speaker honorarium
- Stipend for Crowley Castle project

Despite the fact that there are normal operating expenses every year, website expenses, Crowley Castle site maintenance, there are no dues or fees to belong to the Crowley Clan. But when there is a Gathering in Ireland those attending are expected to help pay the cost of the Gathering. The committee has solicited some local sponsorships, but this is minimal and does not come close to covering expenses.

Additionally, during the weekend, the Irish Gardai (police) have advised against private vehicles at the sites due to traffic conditions, narrow roads, and limited parking.

The €50 fee originally mentioned, was for those attending the banquet only, - *no other functions*, and they would be expected to contribute to some of the above expenses as well.

The Crowley Clan Committee thanks you for your understanding and apologizes for any confusion.

Crowley Clan News from Around the World

Betty Bookster, Pittsburgh, PA: I am looking forward to meeting you in Bantry. What's new in my life? In the next few months I have three weddings and the showers that go with them. My youngest grandson is graduating from Penn State, my oldest grandson will become a father in the next few weeks, I have two major dinners in May and June with which I am involved and I am calligraphying invitations for one dinner and envelopes for my granddaughter's wedding. I am waiting for the next issue of "Ireland of the Welcomes" to see if they print my letter claiming authorship to Molly Malone's new nickname, "the dish with the fish". I will send you a copy of the letter I sent them. I think that is all that is going in this "old lady's" life. I think I need a nap! Slan, Betty

Allene Dueweke, Kalamazoo, MI: I'm looking forward to reading the newsletter. I haven't done any research lately, been living easy in Florida all winter. We've been giving a lot of thought to going to Ireland, but I really would want to have something more on my ancestors before going. I'm looking for some way to find out just where I could look for information while there. Will keep looking as soon as we get resettled in Michigan.

David H. Crowley, Belmont, NY: Thanks for the great work on the newsletter. Being from a family of journalists, I appreciate the work it takes to get items in and organized. I will be attending the reunion with my wife Sandy and our two eldest grandsons, (one living in Portland, OR and the other now back in Cuba, NY) along with my sister Pat Crowley Trimble of Altoona, PA and some of her children and grandchildren. It will be our first reunion, but looking forward to attending future events. See you in Bantry!

Sue Crowley, Yuma, AZ: My Son Cal and his wife are going with Sunny and me to the reunion. We are so glad. See ya there.

Eleanor Flanagan Lott, Erinsville, ONTARIO: I've corresponded with Tom from the Crowley Clan website, and he suggested I write to you and have a query put in your newsletter. I would really appreciate it if you could. My grandmother had 3 sisters who stayed in Ireland while she and her brother came to Canada. My grandmother was Johanna Houlahan (married John Flanagan in Canada) and her sisters were Anne who married a Crowley (have no other information), Margaret who married an O'Brien and had 2 sons Hugh and Denis, and Mary (I do not have any info on her). When my great grandmother died in 1918, a letter was sent by Anne Crowley from Upper Abbey St, Cahir, Tipperary to her brother Denis Houlahan in Toronto. I would love to find any family history and hopefully locate some relatives! My email address is clareriver.blueskies@sympatico.ca. My mailing address is RR 1, Erinsville, Ont K0K2A0 Canada. Thank you.

Tom Crowley, Akron, OH: The following is from the website www.spokesmanreview.com/iraq.database/casualties. It is a sad and bitter part of the military history of the Crowley Clan: Lance Cpl. Kyle D. Crowley of San Ramon, California, U.S., Status: dead, Age: 18, Date of Death: 4/6/2004, Service Branch: Marines, Service Force: Active duty, Unit: 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Details: Crowley was killed by hostile fire in Anbar province, Iraq.

Mary Alice Martinec: An article in the Capital News, Albany, NY reported on July 24, 2003 that Peter Crowley became the first blind person to solo kayak across the English Channel. It took Peter 7½ hours to complete the 22 mile trip from Dover, England to Calais, France. He is very athletic and hasn't let much stop him in life. "I've climbed Kilimanjaro, hiked a lot of the Adirondacks. I've vertical rock climbed. I've canoed, sailed, and skied," he said. But, kayaking is his favorite sport.

Birth Register of Skibbereen Parish

Submitted by Col. Myles R. O'Crowley

12 Jan 1835

Michael of Daniel Crowley & Mary Driscoll
Sponsors: Cornelius Driscoll & Catherine Burke

05 Apr 1835

Tim of Patrick Crowley & Ellen Hourihane
Sponsors: Tim Hourihane & Mary Hourihane

May 1835

John of Cornelius Crowley & Mary Collins
Sponsors: Pat Crowley & Peg Collins

31 May 1835

Kate of Cornelius Crowley & Johanna Geaney
Sponsors: John Holland & Kate Geaney

31 May 1835

Mary of Charles Crowley & Mary Burke
Sponsors: Denis Regan & Mary Crowley

16 Jul 1835

James of James Crowley & Catherine Driscoll
Sponsors: Denis McCarthy & Catherine Driscoll

02 Sep 1835

James of Charles Crowley & Mary Russel
Sponsors: Jerry Crowley & Mary Crowley

Nov 1835

Mary of John Crowley & Ann Crowley
Sponsors: Stephen Barry & Catherine Driscoll

Dec 1835

Florence of Daniel Crowley & Mary Langton
Sponsors: Rev. Dan Donovan & Rebecca Crowley

08 Feb 1836

Catherine of John Crowley & Anne Linehan
Sponsors: Denis Crowley & Ellen Young

Mar 1836

Mary of Jeremiah Crowley & Catherine Sullivan
Sponsors: Dan Duggan & Anna Starkie

Some Crowley Parish Records from County Kerry

Compiled by Carol Doran Barlow

These are mostly records from the IGI; all records must be rechecked for accuracy from original parish records.

Castle Island FHL film #823804

(no date) Thomas Crowley/Julia Crowley

1848 Aug 07 Nora Crowley, daughter

(no date) Timothy Crowley/Mary Reidy

1848 Nov 12 Jeremiah Crowley, son

(no date) Timothy Crowley/Mary Kelly

1845 Jan 25 Margaret Crowley, daughter

1846 Sep 27 Hannah Crowley, daughter

1848 Apr 23 Hum. Crowley, son

1848 Mar 05 Nora Crowley married Jeremiah Sullivan

1848 Mar 20 Daniel Crowley married Hannah Connor

1849 Jan 07 Timothy Crowley, son

1852 Feb 24 Denis Crowley married Margaret Jones

1852 Aug Pat Crowley married Mary Brosnan

Witness: Eugene Sullivan & Patrick Horan

Currow

1804 Feb Cornelius Crowley married Hannah Sullivan

1804 Feb 12 Timothy Crowley married Bridget (?)

1807 Feb 08 Timothy Crowley married Mary Cronin

1807 Dec 22 Daniel Crowley, son

1821 Feb 25 Daniel Crowley married Margaret Connor

1823 Feb 10 Cornelius Crowley married Hannah Lussoon

1826 May 15 Patrick, son

(no date) Timothy Crowley married Ellen Grady

1824 Jan 27 Bridget, daughter

1827 Feb 24 Daniel Crowley married Mary Butler

(no date) John Crowley married Mary Sweeney

1826 May 14 John Crowley, son