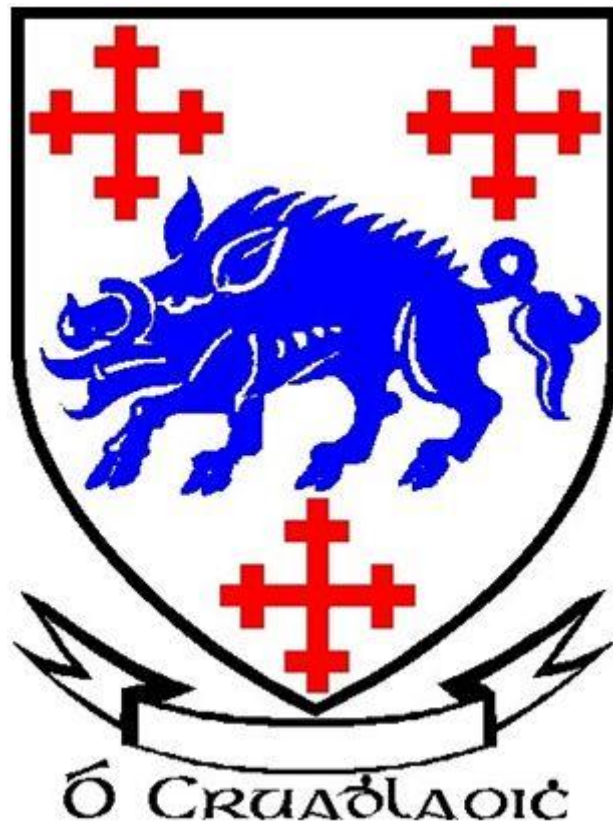


# CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

March 2006

In Memory of Thomas Joseph Crowley 1925-2005

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



## Finding yDNA Cousins

"This one was a complete surprise," wrote Tom Crowley who is the past Taoiseach of the Crowley Clan. Tom was referring to his 37-marker yDNA match with Vincent Crowley of Bantry, West Cork. Earlier Tom had discovered that Jim Crowley of Washington State was a 37 marker match, but that didn't surprise Tom since both Jim and Tom can trace their ancestry to the Beara Peninsula area. But Bantry is a 25-mile distance from Beara. How did this happen? That's something for Tom to figure out.

Tom, Jim, and Vincent are part of the Crowley Clan yDNA project. According to Family Tree DNA who is conducting the study, a 37-marker match means that there is a 95% probability that there is a common ancestor within seven generations.

Catherine Crowley Budd, who administers the project, has defined the project this way: "Members of the Crowley Clan are widely scattered throughout the world. Many of us have hit the 'brick wall' in tracing our ancestors to Ireland. Please consider joining our project if you are a Crowley, and have no other family member who has been tested."

If you are one of those at the "brick wall" and you don't think it is possible to break through, just ask Tom, Jim, and Vincent. They now know it is possible to find those cousins. And through finding the cousins we are finding our heritage in Ireland. For more information go to [www.familytreedna.com/](http://www.familytreedna.com/) and search for the Crowley project.

## From Marian's Desk

I'm sitting here in South Carolina finishing up this March newsletter a week before St. Patrick's Day. That is a day I've always looked forward to my entire life. When I was a child the nuns at school would make copies of every Irish tune they knew, and they knew them all! Instead of arithmetic and spelling we would spend the day singing and having a good time.

It is much the same today, but without the nuns, God rest their souls. Here in Charleston Tommy Condon's Pub takes the place of the schoolroom and the singing begins in the evening instead of in the morning. But the wonderful feeling of being proud of our Irish heritage is still the same. I hope all of you enjoyed St. Patrick's Day this year.

I had lots of help with this issue of the newsletter, and I want to thank everyone who contributed. It makes my job so much easier when the readers send in articles.

Did any of you see a handsome young man named Bill Crowley on the Jeopardy TV show late last year? Bill did very well on the show, and his dad Terry Crowley is justifiably proud. Terry writes about his son's moment of glory on [page five](#).

Despite having a full-time job and being in the midst of repairing her home after Hurricane Wilma, Cathy Budd serves as our very able yDNA project administrator. I have heard many reasons for this project, but none is as compelling as Cathy's, which is on [page six](#). Please read it and if you are a male Crowley consider joining the project. If you are not a male Crowley, consider asking someone in your family to participate.

Johnny Crowley of Bantry, who is the Clan Council Secretary, sent the minutes from the council meeting last fall. Thanks, Johnny. You can find a synopsis of the meeting on [page three](#).

Finally you will notice that this issue of the newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Thomas Joseph Crowley. Thomas was a veteran of World War II, a permanent deacon at St. Pius X Church in San Antonio, TX, and the uncle of Tom Crowley of Ohio. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our condolences to the family.

*Slán, Marian*

# Crowley Clan Council Minutes

The Council of the Crowley Clan met in Clonakilty last fall to discuss the arrangements for the Crowley Clan Gathering in September 2007, the progress of the clan's DNA testing project, and the continuing efforts of the clan to form an organization to which contributions could be made.

Council members present were Liam Crowley Taoiseach (Bandon), John Crowley Honorable Secretary (Bantry), Flor Crowley Honorable Treasurer (Bandon), Séamus Crowley (Bantry), Vincent Crowley (Bantry), Timothy Crowley (Clonakilty), Mrs Kitty Horgan, ex-Taoiseach, (Bandon), Charles Crowley ex-Taoiseach, (Bandon), and Tom Crowley, ex-Taoiseach (Ohio).

Taoiseach Liam Crowley suggested that the focus of the 2007 gathering be the historical and cultural features of the Skibbereen/Baltimore area. Other suggestions included a talk on the effects of the famine in that area, a visit to a Mass Rock, and a wine and cheese party. All agreed that the visit to the Crowley Castle and the road bowling has been very popular in the past and should continue. An optional golf outing to be held on Monday September 17th was also discussed. The dates of the gathering are September 14, 15, and 16.

The primary venue for the 2007 gathering will be the Quality Hotel in Clonakilty. You can reserve rooms at the Quality Hotel by phoning 00-353-23-36-400 or e-mailing [info@qualityhotelclonakilty.com](mailto:info@qualityhotelclonakilty.com) Group Ref. 439.

Charles Crowley who is both an ex-Taoiseach and an accountant suggested that a club rather than a company be formed. Under Irish law the forming of a company is both complicated and expensive. Forming a club would provide the structure the Crowley Clan is looking for without added burden. A club could still apply for grant money to aid in the protection of our castle ruins at Ahakeera. There was also a preliminary discussion about the rules for the proposed club.

Tom Crowley talked about the Crowley Clan yDNA project. He had brought kits with him and most of the council members agreed to participate in the Crowley DNA project, and Tom offered to discuss the project with anyone who was interested.

# Crowley Clan News from Around the World

**Tom Crowley, Wales:** I was very impressed with the newsletter especially Don Perkins family background. Now that is a real "wild west" story. I can recall as a young boy of 7 years seeing films of the American West and the men who pioneered the interior meeting up with the Indians. "Our" Samuel Crowley must have been as tough as nails and highly intelligent to have learned the Shawnee language.

**Sunny Crowley, Honolulu, Hawaii:** I am participating in the National Geographic Human Genome project to find out my genetic migration trail. It is fascinating. I recommend the following websites:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic\\_genealogy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_genealogy)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mitochondrial\\_genome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mitochondrial_genome) (National Geographic DNA test)

**Lisa Butchart, Ontario, Canada:** Could you please send information about the Crowley reunion when it becomes available? I am the manager of Canadian fiddler Chrissy Crowley and her debut CD is currently under production. I will be looking for performance opportunities for her and especially wish to take her to Ireland. If the reunion committee is organizing entertainment, I could arrange for Chrissy to perform (for free as it is a clan gathering). Thanks Marian! Here is my website: [www.bmts.com/~fiddle](http://www.bmts.com/~fiddle)

**Sue Crowley, Arizona:** Sunny & I are going to Spain in March. I so enjoyed Don Perkins answer to my "Crowley Progenitors" in the July newsletter. It was great.

**Bill Crowley, Florida:** I thought you might be interested in the following, perhaps as a short article on locating missing Crowley funds to finance the 2007 trip to the Clan Gathering. (Editor's note: I think Bill is kidding about financing a trip, but you never know.) If you know you are due a refund from the IRS:

<https://sa.www4.irs.gov/irfof/lang/en/irfofgetstatus.jsp>

If you are missing a Federal Tax refund, or think someone may be missing a refund:

[http://www.ntu.org/main/components/current\\_irs/](http://www.ntu.org/main/components/current_irs/)

Here is MSNBC's contribution:

[http://msnbc.com/modules/tvnews/dateline\\_irs/form.asp?cp1=1](http://msnbc.com/modules/tvnews/dateline_irs/form.asp?cp1=1)

**Loretta Everingham, Australia, [lorever@hibis.wbs.net.au](mailto:lorever@hibis.wbs.net.au):** I am researching my Crowley ancestors Timothy Crowley and his wife Margaret Murphy. Their names appear on certificates for my great-great grandfather John Albert Crowley born 1824 in County Cork. He came to Australia in about 1844 and died in Victoria, Australia in 1899 at 75 years of age. His death certificate by the informant states he was born at Toorinadrummond (spelling could be wrong) in County Cork, but I have never been able to find that place. John Albert Crowley married Bridget Mary Agnes Noonan in Victoria in 1857. She also was from County Cork. Her parents were Denis Noonan and Julia McGrath. I am wondering if there is any way your readers could help me.

**Miriam Geraghty, Surrey, England, [miriamgeraghty@virgin.net](mailto:miriamgeraghty@virgin.net):** I have just read the November 2005 issue of the Crowley Clan Newsletter and was very interested in the article by Trish Crowley Nelson "California meets Kilrush". She mentions James Bartholomew Crowley's (he is my great grand uncle) grave in Kilmihil, and I have recently been doing some research on him and would love to know more about the Crowleys in San Francisco. My great grandmother was Margaret Crowley (sister of James Bartholomew) and presumably sister of Michael James Crowley.

# **My Son Bill**

*by Terry Crowley, Goderich, Ontario*

Last spring Bill Was checking his e-mail and noticed a bulk mail entitled "Do You Want To Be A Jeopardy Contestant?" Since his childhood Bill has watched Jeopardy and hoped that he would one day appear on the show and be a Jeopardy Champion. He immediately applied.

Soon Bill received e-mail notification that he had been chosen to compete to become a contestant. He traveled to Toronto where he was among 400 people trying out. Each contestant was to answer 50 questions in 50 different categories and was given a personality test and an aptitude test. Out of the 400 six were chosen. And Bill was one of the six!

Six months later Bill was invited to go to Los Angeles, at his own expense, where he was chosen from a group of other hopefuls to be a Jeopardy contestant. His dream had finally become a reality. Bill became a Jeopardy Champion. His two appearances netted him \$16,000 (American). While his mother Crystal and I were overwhelmed with pride and joy, Bill being an overachiever had hoped to go further. I reminded him that millions of people have tried to become Jeopardy contestants. Those chosen are a very intelligent group. Any contestant appearing on Jeopardy is a champion in his own right. And most never achieve the title of Jeopardy Champion.

The results of Bill's 15 minutes of fame have been appearances on national Canadian and U.S. television, interviews on five local television stations and seven radio stations, numerous newspaper articles, a special ceremony honouring him by the Mayor and Town Council of Goderich, requests to speak at schools as far away as Stratford and London, worldwide recognition, and most import having his dream come true

# Why Join the Crowley yDNA Project?

*by Catherine Crowley Budd, Administrator*

To date we have 32 participants in the Crowley Clan yDNA project. As the project administrator I would like to thank everyone who has participated. We have had seven members match on the 37-marker tests. We have a significant number of results yet to be received from the lab and I am hopeful of some more matches.

We need more males to participate if we are to match more members. If you are interested in participating, please email me and I will add you to the group. Several people have asked me why anyone would want to learn about their yDNA. The following is my explanation of the benefits of this type of testing.

The Irish nation was torn asunder by the actions of the British for no greater reason than to conquer and decimate a society based upon their cultural and religious differences. Since the 1600's families were ripped apart by aggressive land acquisition that displaced people from areas they had owned and lived on for generations. One of the consequences of these actions was the emigration to other countries thought to be less hostile to the Irish culture. Many who emigrated were declared dead to those who remained in Ireland while others just lost touch with family. Family history, both written and oral was often destroyed in an effort to erase the memories of those who left.

I feel that this project is one way to repair the damage done by the British to the culture and heritage of Ireland. In this age of intercontinental travel, global communications and the internet, it is comforting for me to know that I know that I may be able discover where my family came from long ago and to perhaps connect with other family members.

I will be happy to hear from anyone who is interested in the project.

*Catherine Crowley Budd  
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# Genealogical Research in County Clare

*by Trish Crowley Nelson*

The genealogy centre in Corofin will do genealogy work for you if you can't make the trip to Co. Clare. If you're in Co. Clare however, it has slim pickings (and the National Library in Dublin is difficult to navigate). The best spot is the de Valera Public Library in Ennis. As you stand on the street facing the library (on Harmony Row), the records building is the wing on the right. There's a wealth of information; census records and applotment books on microfiche, old newspapers and magazines, and a staff member who can get you started. Contact (065) 6846353 for opening hours. Also, township libraries frequently have collections of local history and politics, but these may need to be searched by hand (as was the case in Kilrush). Finally, in searching for graves try the parish priest first, but my husband was able to get a hand-drawn map of the Kilmihil cemetery from the postmaster. The best advice? Talk. Ask. Everyone has a story to tell and is more than happy to share it.