

CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

March 2007

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



Letter from the Crowley Clan Taoiseach

I am pleased to report that the restoration work on the Crowley Castle has been given the go ahead and work began the week of March 18th. Fourem Consulting Engineers have finished the planning and permitting stage. The Department of the Environment has issued the permits. A builder has been chosen and will begin work as soon as the weather cooperates. A total of €22,000 will be needed to complete phase one.

Any of you who have been to the Crowley Castle know how inspiring it is and how important it is to our heritage as Crowleys. The work to preserve it has begun, and we can't let it stop.

The Crowley Clan Council is calling on all Crowleys to help with this important work in whatever way you can. Contributions both large and small are important. If you can make a sizable contribution, that will be most welcome. But all contributions are important.

After years of deterioration, finally the work will begin to insure that future generations of Crowleys will be able to visit their ancestral home site. Those of you who are coming to the Crowley Clan Gathering in September of this year will be able to see the results of the restoration work.

Please send your contributions either to your country rep listed [here](#) or send it directly to our treasurer, Flor Crowley. Please be sure to write "Castle Restoration Fund" in the memo field.

God bless.

Liam Crowley

From Marian's Desk

Dia duit,

The countdown is on! There is less than six months until the Crowley Clan Gathering! Are you ready? Have you sent in your reservations to your country representative? Their names and addresses are on [page 3](#). The registration fee is €150 per person. You can make the conversion to your currency on www.xe.com/ucc/ or ask your local bank.

Have you reserved your rooms at the Quality Hotel? The phone number and email address are also on [page 3](#). Ask for Ms. Sinead O'Donoghue. Don't be confused by their website. It shows no vacancy because they are holding room for Crowleys.

If the past is any indication, this Crowley Clan Gathering will be a time of renewing old acquaintances and of making new friendships that will last a lifetime. It will be a time of learning about our heritage and a time of gaining a feel for the history of our clan. I hope you will be there.

One stop on the agenda for the Crowley Gathering will be a trip (or should I say pilgrimage) to our ancestral home in Ahakeera to visit the ruins of the Crowley Castle. Thanks to the initiative of Liam Crowley, our Taoiseach, the Crowley Castle is currently undergoing some badly needed restoration. When we arrive in September the castle will look different than it has in the past. It will have been cleaned and stabilized so that generations in the future will also be able to see it and wonder at what part our ancestors had in life at Ahakeera. If you can, join the fund drive to finance this very important and historical work. Send your contribution to your country representative.

Of course people have questions about both the Crowley Gathering and the Crowley Castle restoration. Feel free to email me at any time and I will find the answer for you.

Again I am asking for volunteers to help with the work of the Crowley Clan Newsletter. We publish three times a year. There are several jobs that need to be done, but none of them require huge amounts of time. I could use the help, and I think the newsletter will be a better publication with the addition of one or two other people to lend ideas and opinions. If you can help, please let me know. Write or email me at crowleychamberlain@gmail.com.

Slán, Marian

Register Today For The Crowley Clan Gathering

On September 14, 15 & 16 2007 the Clan Crowley will gather in Clonakilty, County Cork. Please register early to help the Crowley Council plan for the event.

Registration fee for the gathering is €150 per person Send a check for the equivalent amount in your country's currency to your country's representative. Please write "Crowley Clan Gathering" in the reference field.

Ireland & Europe:

*Flor Crowley,
Knocknacurra, Bandon,
County Cork, Ireland*

Canada:

*Terry Crowley,
86 Anglese St.,
Goderich, Ontario, N7A 1V3*

New Zealand & Australia;

*Pauline Crowley-Zieltjes,
614 Kelly Road, Rd
New Plymouth, New Zealand*

United States of America:

*John A. Crowley,
2506 Elton St.
Albany, GA 31707
Reserve Your Room At The Quality Hotel*

The Quality Hotel is the primary venue for the Crowley Clan Gathering. Reserve your room early. The hotel is currently holding a block of rooms for us.

Phone (011-353-23-36-400) and ask for Sinead O'Donoghue who is handling our reservations, or email (sodonoghue@qualityhotels.ie).

Our Group Reference number is CG1407.

Crowley Clan News from Around the World

Tom Crowley, Akron, OH: (tcrow95758@aol.com)

I've had several people ask me what is road bowling and what is a mass rock. Road bowling is an old game using what were small cannon balls. It is done in only 2 or 3 areas in Eire and County Cork is one of them. The idea is to see how far down the country road you can make the ball roll. Some experts can do almost a mile! We have someone demonstrate and then have two people teams from each county compete for fun. Lots of fun!

At each Gathering we have Crowley priests celebrate Mass at an area that was used for that purpose hundreds of years ago when the English forbade it. Locations are hidden from the road and are very beautiful. All are welcome, Catholic or not. It is a remembrance of what we went through years ago

Dennis Baker, North Yorkshire, England: (denandsteph@tiscali.co.uk)

I wonder if you or one of your Crowley genealogists could help me with my search for my Crowley ancestors. The only one I know about is a Honoria(h) who I believe was born around 1811 in Ballyvourney, County Cork. She married a Denis Creedon, probably in the same village in the early 1830s, before emigrating to Bradford, Yorkshire, England after 1836, but before 1840. Any help or direction would be much appreciated.

Pauline Crowley-Zieltjes, New Zealand: (nakicrowley@gmail.com)

We are moving into our summer holidays and Christmas celebrations, and this is the time of the year that our Crowley Clan has our picnics and get-togethers. We are hoping to make up a troop to come to Eire, and my 86 year old Dad is also wanting to come along with my Mum so we will be needing a hospital ship I think. Our Kiwi dollar is always hard up against it to come to Europe and it is bread and water all the way til we get there. Just happy to see you all in the Emerald Isle and enjoy our Crowleyness with the history which for us all is like a fairytale and the Craic that goes with it. For us Kiwi Crowleys we are the last bus stop before the South Pole and no matter where we journey, its going to cost. But you will get no fuss from us.

Sue Crowley, AZ: (snowbirdsue@aol.com)

Sunny and I are going again to the reunion in Clonakilty. And Sunny's two Aunties from Texas, her Dad's two sisters are coming with us. We are excited to show them the places we fell in love with in Ireland and for them to meet all our wonderful new friends. See ya there, I hope.

Donal F. Crowley, Dublin, Republic of Ireland:

Here is a list of Crowley Clan Rallies since 1970. I hope this information will be helpful, Slean go Foill.

Sept. 1970 - Rally at Ahakeera, Crowley Castle

Sept. 1972 - Kinsale, Battle of 1601

Sept. 1974 - Bandon, O'Boyle's plan for Bandon

Sept. 1976 - Timoleague, History of the Abbey

Sept. 1978 - Kinsale, Siege of Charles Fort

Sept. 1980 - Dunmanway, Mass Rock at Gleanmucha

Sept. 1982 - Ahakeera, Presentation of the Castle to Owner

Sept. 1984 - Kilbrittain, History of the Castle

Sept. 1986 - Courtmacsherry Bay, History of Ship Disasters

Anna Crowley, Portland, OR (anna.crowley@xerox.com)

My grandfather was a part of the Crowley upholstery business that was established in San Francisco in the early 1900's by J.B. Crowley and his brother. My grandfather's name was Michael Joseph Crowley. His father Thomas Crowley lived and died in the town of Kilmihil, Co. Clare.

My father George David Crowley is one of two children born to Michael Joseph Crowley and Agnes O'Donnel in San Francisco. My dad's birthdate is December 16, 1926. I have a document that a cousin put together in 1976 that traces the family back to around 1750 or so.

The Crowley/Croley DNA Project

The Crowley/Croley DNA Project is asking members of the Crowley Clan Project to open their results for direct comparison. This can be done a couple of ways, but the easiest is for the members to open their own DNA results page, on FTDNA, and click the Join Button near the top in the drop down menu.

Crowley/Croley should be visible, click on it and follow the instructions. Joining other existing projects is FREE, as is YSearch.

The other way to compare your results is to join YSearch. The button is next to the JOIN button, and you set the password. In YSearch participants from any company can post or upload their results and compare with others globally. Either method is easy. There is very little risk to placing your results in the public view. They are only useful for genealogical comparison to others.

For those who "join" the Crowley/Croley project the results are made viewable on the project website, and color coded to make the comparisons easier. homepages.rootsweb.com/~scismfam/crowley/dna-project/crowley-results.htm. The Crowley/Croley Project is a general focus on any Crowley or similar spelling/pronunciation surname.

The Project began as a venue to trace the DNA of the descendants of Jeffrey Crowley, a suspected English Crowley, and this past month we merged with another "Crowley" project to begin to consolidate the results in one place. The Croley@rootsweb.com mail list is our discussion forum, and this mail list focuses on the Jeffrey Crowley lines as well as the DNA project.

It has been suggested that the various groups work more closely to determine origins, and that we solicit area participants in both England and Ireland to establish which DNA "chains" go to which origin. A place to foster such sampling is at reunions, gatherings, and by personal networking. If participants want to donate funds toward the testing program, it is also possible to do so. We have user donations of \$250 currently set aside for tests, much more will be needed to make it worthwhile.

The purpose of the project is to discover origins, support traditional genealogy research, guide our future research, and gather a common base of knowledge on family migrations and affiliations. Thank you for your consideration. Questions may be referred to Jeffery G. Scism (descendant of Jeffrey Crowley) at scismgenie@roadrunner.com or 909-888-0417.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Crowley Clan Gathering

Is Shannon or Dublin Airport the closer to Clonakilty?

Shannon is closer, but you can fly into either on Continental or Delta from the USA.

Is there public transportation from the airport to Clonakilty?

There is bus transportation. Check with www.buseireann.ie for full information. You would have to change buses in Cork City. Telephone numbers are (01) 8366111 for Dublin and (061) 474311 for Shannon.

Can I pay for the Crowley Clan Gathering tickets by credit card?

We are not able to accept credit card payments. Please send a check to your country representative.

Do we have to use the motor coach (bus) transportation for the Gathering field trips?

Yes. The Irish roads are narrow and there is no room for individual cars to park along the side. The Gardi (police) are very strict about this.

If I make a reservation at the Quality Hotel in Clonakilty and I need for some reason to cancel, what is the cancellation policy?

According to Sinead O'Donoghue at the Quality Hotel the cancellation policy for the Crowley group is 72 hours.

Will it be possible to buy a ticket to the banquet on Saturday night only and not participate in the other functions?

That will be possible, but the price for banquet only has not been set.

How do I make out my check for the Crowley Gathering?

Make the check out to Crowley Clan and put Crowley Clan Gathering in the memo field.

Why are you people always asking for money?

It may seem that way right now. The Crowley Gathering happens only once every three years. It is a special event and obviously there are expenses that go along with it. It is more difficult right now because air fares are high and the exchange rate is poor for most of us. The Crowley Castle restoration is a once in a lifetime event. We either make the effort now or the deterioration will continue. The Crowley Council is requesting donations, but it is totally up to individuals whether or not they wish to contribute. No organization can exist without expenses. We hope you are able to join us in Clonakilty. And, if possible, we hope you will make a donation to the Crowley Castle Fund.

The Crowley Clan Castle

Once the Crowley Castle stood in glory in a beautiful valley called Ahakeera in West Cork. It was the ancient home of the proud Crowley Clan. Today only a part of one wall remains. And that is in precarious condition. Taoiseach Liam Crowley is proposing that Crowleys from around the world join today to fund the work to stabilize the Crowley Castle. The work is now in progress and the projected cost is €22,000.

We are asking Crowleys from all countries to join in helping with the restoration. Donations can be mailed to your country representative. And all donations, no matter the amount, are welcome. If you are able to make a substantial contribution, that would be wonderful. Hopefully all Crowleys from all countries will contribute at a level they feel appropriate. Please help to preserve our heritage!!!