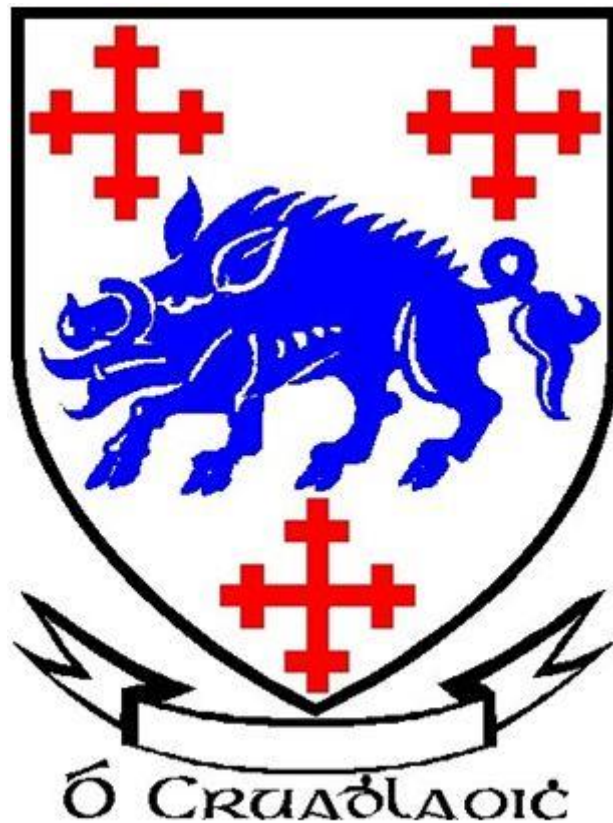


# CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

November 2007

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



## Letter from the Crowley Clan Taoiseach

I enjoyed seeing so many of you at the Crowley Clan Gathering in Clonakilty in September. Wish you all could have been there. And I was extremely honored to be chosen Taoiseach of the Crowley Clan.

I thank the Crowley Clan Council for their faith in me. Others elected are Jerry Crowley (Crossmahon) Taniste, Mary Flynn (Ballinadeen) Runai, Flor Crowley (Bandon) Treasurer, Country Reps John A. Crowley, (2506 Elton St., Albany, GA 31707, USA), Terry Crowley, (86 Anglese St., Goderich, Ontario, N7A 1V3, Canada), and Pauline Crowley-Zieltjes (614 Kelly Road, RD 3, New Plymouth, Taranak, New Zealand). Castle donations can be mailed to your Country Rep.

At the banquet I asked everyone for their ideas for the future of the Crowley Clan and for their help in carrying those ideas out. I was pleasantly surprised with the response. We now have people working on several projects, and I hope to report on their progress in future issues.

There was a great interest in doing more in the area of genealogy. I am currently looking for volunteers willing to chair sub-committees for their ancestors or for their geographical areas. Sue Crowley of Arizona ([snowbirdsue@aol.com](mailto:snowbirdsue@aol.com)) will chair the Jeffrey Crowley Descendants Group. Maureen Crowley of Ontario ([mcrowley@city.petersborough.on.ca](mailto:mcrowley@city.petersborough.on.ca)) will chair the Petersborough, Ont. Group. This provides us with contact people for research and for questions about these sub-groups of Crowleys. If you have ideas and are willing to help implement them, please let me know.

God bless,

Liam Crowley  
An Taoiseach

## From Marian's Desk

*Dia duit,*

In less than eleven months the Crowley Clan will gather from around the world in the town of Clonakilty, County Cork, Ireland. Will you be there? I hope so! Full details are in this issue.

As most of you know, I will be taking on new responsibilities for the Crowley Clan beginning next September. After 11 years of editing the Crowley Clan Newsletter, it is time for me to be thinking about turning the Crowley Clan Newsletter over to new leadership. I am asking anyone who has any interest in helping with the Crowley Clan Newsletter to contact me.

The jobs involved in producing this newsletter can be divided into publisher, editor, proof-reader, and staff writers. None of these jobs need consume a lot of time. And one person can do several or all of the jobs. I would like to begin turning these responsibilities over at the beginning of 2007 and to phase my responsibilities out by the end of the year. I have certainly enjoyed my 11 years of producing the newsletter, but it is clearly time for new people and fresh ideas.

You will see elsewhere in this newsletter that the fee for the activities of the Crowley Gathering weekend is €150 per person. Those activities will include the wine reception, the banquet, the music, all activities, and all transportation. Other than the wine reception and the banquet, all food and drink will be on your own. If there is enough interest, there may be a golf outing on Monday. There will be an additional fee for this outing.

You will also find information about lodging at the Quality Hotel in Clonakilty which is the primary venue for the Crowley Gathering. Be sure to mention the Crowley reference number when you book. And be sure to ask for a written confirmation.

Time flies and September 2007 will be here before we know it! Start making your plans now. Bring your smiles, your stories, your curiosity, and your friendliness. Come and be a part of our international "family". See you in Clonakilty.

*Slán, Marian*

# CROWLEY CLAN GATHERING, 2007

*by Anne Crowley Ronco*

"I think I'm lost," said the American on his way to the Crowley Clan Gathering to the store clerk somewhere north of Clonakilty. "Well, you're still in Ireland," answered the clerk.

**Failete:** From the lush, rolling hills to the breath-taking coastline, we were, indeed, "still in Ireland" as some 200+ Crowleys from all over the world gathered at the Quality Hotel in Clonakilty for the 2007 Gathering. Taoiseach Liam Crowley welcomed one and all Friday afternoon, September 14. A cheese and wine reception, courtesy of J. J. Crowley of Bantry, was held later that evening, and we were again welcomed, this time by the Lord Mayor of Clonakilty.

Never a family to pass up a chance to sing along to great Irish music, we then piled into two buses, provided by Martin Crowley, and found our way to Jer Crowley's pub, Crossmahon, in nearby Bandon. There we were privileged to listen to Larry Crowley's banjo and Chrissy Crowley, 16, who came all the way from Nova Scotia to serenade us with her outstanding fiddle playing.

**Taking Care of Business:** You would think all of that reveling would have exhausted us, but not so! Saturday morning over 100 cousins showed up at 10:30am for a general meeting of the Crowley Clan. Seamus Crowley gave us a brief history of our ancestors, dating back to the 1500s. Cathy Budd brought us up to date on the DNA project, an exciting way to trace how close our relationships are. A discussion was held regarding the progress made in restoring the Crowley Castle, and there was general consensus that this important effort must continue to move forward. Judging by the questions and comments, there is no doubt that the Crowleys are a pretty intelligent clan.

**History Revisited:** Speaking of history and the Irish, we broadened our knowledge Saturday afternoon when we visited Michael Collins's birthplace and heard an excellent speaker, Tim Crowley, tell us about the life and untimely death of this Irish hero. The next stop was the Lis Na gCon ringfort, where John Kehoe, dressed in apparel reflecting the 1200s, told us about this historic site. Brave souls (a clan trait) crawled through the pitch-dark cave, known as a souterrain, there.

**The Banquet:** Saturday's banquet, held at the Quality Hotel, saw a gathering of over 200 cousins from Ireland, the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Wales, France, Australia, and England. We were honored by the presence of Brian Crowley, Member of the European Parliament, who spoke about the importance of our history and heritage. The chain of office was passed from Liam Crowley to Marian Crowley Chamberlain, who is our Taoiseach for 2007-2010. Jer Crowley is the new Taniste.

A raffle was held, funds to benefit the castle restoration. Tom Crowley of Arizona and Ohio won the first prize, a painting of the Crowley Castle done by artist Deirdre Crowley. Tom then graciously presented the painting to Council member Anne Crowley, ensuring that it stay in Ireland. Afterwards we enjoyed dancing and camaraderie well into the wee hours. At some point after midnight, MEP Brian Crowley introduced American Marc Lascko, who had just asked Tom Crowley (Taoiseach, 2001-2004) for permission to marry his daughter. Marc stepped to the bandstand and proposed to Kate Crowley, daughter of Tom and Mary Lynn. Kate said Yes...and she has plenty of Crowley witnesses to back her up.

**Road-Bowling:** The Crowleys rose bright and early Sunday morning for the traditional road-bowling. Two local experts demonstrated the game and explained the rules. The game consists of throwing a small iron ball as far down the road as possible without its leaving the pavement. Occasionally someone would yell,

“Car!” and one and all would move to the side of the rain-soaked road to let it pass. The U.S./Canadian team took first place, the New Zealand/Australia team placed second, and the all-women’s team came in third. On the last throw, players were instructed to “aim for the pub.”

**Mass at Crowley Castle:** The weekend was capped by the moving event of Mass at Crowley Castle, perhaps the first Mass ever held there (or at least in the past 500 years or so.) American Paul Buckley, in Ireland on an internship, carried the Crowley standard down the hill and into the field, followed by his Crowley cousins. Father Liam Crowley officiated, with Johnny Crowley as acolyte. Music was provided by a local choir as well as fiddlers Chrissy Crowley and Lisa Butchert. Many prayers and hymns were in Irish, beautiful and haunting to hear against the backdrop of the castle. We marveled at the improvements so far, done by stonemason Robert Rohu of Waterfall, County Cork. As Mass ended, we left the field to the music of a small girl, Anna Flynn, playing her tin whistle as the sun set behind her. It was a glorious weekend!

## Crowley Clan News from Around the World

**Kathleen McMahon, 12624 St. James Road, Rockville, MD 20850:**

I am looking for information about the family of my grandmother, Mary Crowley Lynch, who was born 19 Jul 1836 in Bantry, County Cork. Her father was John Crowley and her mother was Mary Shea. Mary Crowley married Michael Lynch about 1855, and she died 20 Aug 1890 in LaCrosse, WS. Her siblings were Daniel Crowley born about 1834 in Bantry, died 25 Mar 1905 also in LaCrosse, WS, and Michael Crowley born about 1836 in Bantry and died in 1857 in Houston County, MN. Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated.

**Bud Lewis, Milford, NH, USA:** ([r.lewis111@verison.net](mailto:r.lewis111@verison.net))

My wife's grandmother Lilia Lee Cawley was the daughter of McDonald D. Crowley. For years no one knew her family tree as she was raised as an orphan in Rising Star, TX (Eastland Co). I posted on Genforum, and another Texas Cawley responded with knowledge of the family as her grandfather was also an orphan of the same family. We compared notes and pieced the story together. McDonald D. Cawley (Crowley) was born in Ireland about 1843, immigrated to Melbourne, Australia and then to United States at age 14. He married Kathleen Turner in Waco, TX in 1870. He died Jan 22 1882 in Del Rio, TX in a railroad construction accident. Later that year Kathleen died in Desdemona TX. M.D. and Kathleen Crowley were listed in the 1880 census with five children: Mary 10, William 7, James 5, Lillie 3 (Lilia Lee), Laggane 1. One of the girls died in an accident. She was standing in a rocker with a nail file in her mouth and in a fall the file cut an artery and she died. Both families knew the story. I am hoping someone in Australia will have some knowledge of McDonald D. Crowley and his family.

**Mary Beth Broderick, Oregon, USA:** ([j.broderick@earthlink.net](mailto:j.broderick@earthlink.net))

I'm one of the Oregon Crowleys who visited the castle with my two first cousins and our husbands in April. Meeting Liam and learning about the Clan and seeing the castle was a thrill. We knew we had roots in West County Cork and had been to Ireland twice before, but our connection was generic. Now it is specific. The earliest record we have is that of James Crowley 1790-1875) who was married to Margaret Ryan (1784-1862). They were born in Ireland and are buried in Borth, WI.

**Mary Mizzi, Australia:** ([mmizzi@dodo.com.au](mailto:mmizzi@dodo.com.au))

I am looking for information on Catherine Crowley who married Timothy Fitzgerald in 1815. He was born in 1784 and his father was Redmond Fitzgerald. I first found him in Swansea, Wales in 1841 as a tinman by trade and was widowed with one daughter Maryann age 5 (born 1836 in Ireland). He was also mentioned in the 1851 census with her. She married in 1857 to Thomas Hooley. Timothy is mentioned in the 1861 census. By the 1871 census he had remarried, had 3 children and had adopted the new wife's first child. I have his second marriage in 1866 and his death certificate in 1872 all in Swansea, Wales.

**Pat Trimble, Pennsylvania, USA:** ([patrimble@verizon.net](mailto:patrimble@verizon.net))

Robert Crowley of Warren, PA hosted a family reunion for about 150 descendents of brothers, John and William Crowley, who emigrated from Bandon, Kilbrittain Parish, County Cork around 1840 to settle in Sartwell, PA. The gathering in Eldred, PA featured a 32 foot long chart of the family tree containing hundreds of names of family members, displays of family photos and a trip to St. Mary's Cemetery, Sartwell, where the original Crowley brothers are buried as well as many of their descendents. Among the participants in the reunion were David H. Crowley and Patricia Crowley Trimble who also attended the

Crowley Clan Reunion in Bantry in 2004. Anyone interested in more information about this branch may contact:

*Pat Trimble*  
*2302 Fourth Ave.*  
*Altoona, PA 16602.*

# News of Crowley Archives

*from Mary Casteleyn*

The extract below is taken from *Chapter XI Remarkable Persons born in this County* which appears in *The Ancient and Present State of the County and City of Cork* by Charles Smith, and published in Cork City in 1893.

Fineen Crowley, a labouring man, born at Oldcourt, in the parish of Ringroan, was anno 1747, ninety seven years of age, (therefore born 1650); he was then very hearty, and able to work at the spade, was he not hindered by a disorder of his hands. He was never purged, or let blood, in his life; and being sent for by Lord Kinsale, I had this account from his own mouth.

*The Gentleman's Almanack 1801* lists a Timothy Crowley, Clothier at 38 Lower Bridge Street, Dublin.

*The Cork Post Office General Directory 1844-45* lists the following:

## In Cork City

- Daniel, woollen draper, 39 Patrick's St and 13 Mardyke Parade
- Timothy, eating house keeper, 39 Fishamble St
- William, timber and deal yard, 13 Leirim St
- Jeremiah, writing clerk, 23 Hanover St
- Philip, Gingle owner, 43 Evergreen St
- John, baker, 6 Fitton St
- Mary, clothes dealer, 43 South Main St
- Mrs, 2 Lancaster Quay
- James, tailor, 2 Christ Church Lane
- Patrick, lodging house, 11 Chapel St
- Thomas, hat dresser, 9 Kyril's Quay
- Timothy, gardener, 12 Evergreen St
- Ellen, painter and glazier, 25 Kyril's Quay
- Cornelius, shopkeeper, 132 Bandon Road

## In Clonakilty

- Crowley's Hotel, Sovereign St

## In Cloyne

- James, linen draper

## In Coachford

- Daniel, bakery
- Daniel, innkeeper



# 1852 New Year's Resolutions Solve Genealogical Mysteries

by Bob Schimmell

It is New Year's Eve 1852 and Henry HYDENWELL sits at his desk by candlelight. He dips his quill pen in ink and begins to write his New Year's resolutions.

1. No man is truly well-educated unless he learns to spell his name at least three different ways within the same document. I resolve to give the appearance of being extremely well-educated in the coming year.
2. I resolve to see to it that all of my children will have the same names that my ancestors have used for six generations in a row.
3. My age is no one's business but my own. I hereby resolve to never list the same age or birth year twice on any document.
4. I resolve to have each of my children baptized in a different church, either in a different faith or in a different parish. Every third child will not be baptized at all or will be baptized by an itinerant minister who keeps no records.
5. I resolve to move to a new town, new county, or new state at least once every ten years--just before those pesky enumerators come around asking silly questions.
6. I will make every attempt to reside in counties and towns where no vital records are maintained or where the courthouse burns down every few years.
7. I resolve to join an obscure religious cult that does not believe in record keeping or in participating in military service.
8. When the tax collector comes to my door, I'll loan him my pen, which has been dipped in rapidly fading blue ink.
9. I resolve that if my beloved wife Mary should die, I will marry another Mary.
10. I resolve not to make a will. Who needs to spend money on a lawyer?

Of course, birth and death dates in genealogy are important to have. While backtracking one family group, I came upon a death date entry indicating only that the man's demise was "None too soon."

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