

CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

March 2009

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



Good News for Crowley Shoppers



Have you checked out the CrowleyClan.com Online Store? Go to: www.cafepress.com/crowleyclan . This store is the brainchild of Sharon Crowley of New York, and the profits from the store benefit the Crowley Clan Castle Restoration Fund.

Sharon has designed a variety of products ranging from note cards to apparel, from tote bags to mouse pads. Where else can you buy a Crowley wall clock for only \$15.99?

Let Sharon know your comments and any ideas for new products. Her e-mail address is: sharon_crowley04@yahoo.com. Have fun shopping!

Searching for the Parents of Jeffrey Crowley

Sue Crowley, who is the chair of our Jeffrey Crowley Descendants Committee, has compiled this list of possible parents of Jeffrey Crowley who was born ca. 1700 in England and immigrated to Virginia sometime before 1730. His descendants in the United States are many.

Seven different sets of parents have been suggested for Jeffrey. Sue is trying to get some documentation for these suggestions so she can prove who the parents are. She would welcome information and comments. The possibilities are as follows.

1. Source Paul Crowley, Atoka, OK: Sir Ambrose Crowley, son of Ambrose Crowley and his wife Theodocia Gascogne. (Note: Ed and I disproved this theory when we did research in England in 1992. HHL)
2. Source Judge Ariel Crowley, of Idaho: Agnes Crowley and Jeffry Hopkins, LDS Call #822633, type film batch 7365203, sheet 05.
3. Source Jack Grantham, Dallas, TX: Samuel Crowley, son of Ambrose Crowley and his second wife Sarah Morris. Jack says that Sarah was the daughter of Samuel Morris who was not only RICH, but was of noble blood! Source #2: World Family Tree, Vol. 8, #820.
4. Source World Family Tree, Volume 4, #2365: Benjamin Crowley, son of Ambrose Crowley and his second wife Sarah Morris. Benjamin married Anne Hall-Daffel, and Jeffry born 24 March 1708-09 in Worcestershshire. Source #2: World Family Tree Volume 52, #455.
5. Source World Family Tree Volume 5, #3274: John Crowley, born Hertz Co. England, married about 1731 in Ireland to Martha?
6. Source World Connect Project: John Crowley married to Mary Sherrock.
7. Source Alta Daniel, Bowie, TX (from GenForum): Thomas Crowley married to Agnes? 1702, Warwickshire, England.

News from the Crowley Archives Part 5

from Mary Casteleyn

From list of Coastguards recalled to the Royal Navy during the Crimean War 1854-56 (Irish Genealogical Research Society library, London)

Daniel Crowley, born Rosscarbery, Cork, December 1836. Ships company Muster Book No 34. Description Book ADM38/7868 HMS Cressy (see National Archives at Kew for further information). AB Daniel Crowley Entry 1.3.1858. Discharged 22.7.1858 to HMS Terrible.

NB. About 300 coastguards served on Naval ships during the Crimean War. From this number approximately 1000 dossiers were compiled of those who served on HMS Caesar, HMS Royal George, HMS Princess Royal and HMS Boscawen. The description books contain the following information: place of birth, age on entry to ship, usual place of residence, whether married or single, complexion and colour of eyes and hair, trade.

The Conformity Rolls of Ireland

These are some of the surviving records of Catholics conforming to the Established Religion (The Church of Ireland) in the 1700s. Many of these conformities were done, not necessarily out of religious conviction, but as a matter of convenience such as to inherit land. Sometimes one can find the same person recorded as conforming twice obviously not a genuine conformity and probably done to meet some urgent legal requirement.

Usually the person conforming read their recantation from the Roman Catholic Church in the most convenient Protestant Church. These recantations were sometimes then reported in the local newspapers and a certificate of Conformity was sent up to Dublin. The date listed against the name is the date the Conformity took place. Sadly they are quite incomplete. There are a few Catholic priests who conformed to the Protestant Church (see one below) some of these went on to act as rectors in the Protestant Church but quite a number are recorded as never officiating in the Protestant Church.

Names of Crowleys appearing in the Conformity Rolls

- Catherine Crowley of the Parish of Tracton, 4th April 1736
- Rev Cornelius Crowley, oath taken at Tralee, County Kerry 15th Sept 1751
- Thomas Crowley, practitioner of Physic, 23rd March 1771

From *Clerical and Parochial Records of Cork, Cloyne and Ross* by W Maziere Brady. 1863.

- a. "We present that Cornelius Crowley (sic), alias Maddery of Skibbereene; Owen M'Owen, Sullivan of Kilcaskin Parish are all Irish Papists (and) have taught school and continue to do so contrary to the Act" July 1697 (Bishop Downes' Manuscript).
- b. "Corn. Crowley, a convert, teaches grammar in a school in this Parish. His wife teaches English. Abbeytrewry lies on the West and North of the town of Skibbareen" (sic). 29th May 1700. See Volume 2, page 453 of the above work.
- c. "Humphry Crowley pays 6s an acre for part of the Downing (name of a parcel of land) near the town of Rosse, for 30 a(cres)". 1641. (From an account of lands belonging to the Church of Ireland, Diocese of Cloyne).

Clan News from Around the World

Tom Crowley, Omaha, NB (TCrowley@steiergroup.com): Although it's been a number of years since I was able to attend a reunion, I appreciate your stories and articles about Crowleys far and near. We are talking of a trip to Ireland for '09, but because my wife's family is from County Donegal (the Doughertys) we won't be able to spend as much time with the Crowleys in County Cork. My dad, Clem, is eager to go. Each time he goes he thinks it will be his last. He will probably outlive me!

Dennis Crowley, Teynham, Kent, UK, (dennis.crowley@sky.com): My great-grandfather Patrick Crowley was born in the Dunmanway area. He joined the British Army in Cork City in 1854, fought in the Crimean War, married an English lady, and retired to England. I can trace him via his army records, his paybook and the English censuses.

There are three possibilities in Dunmanway. One was baptised 28/5/1837, parents Timothy Crowley and Mary Mahony, sponsors John Crowley and Mary Kehely. The second was baptised 29/3/1837, parents James Crowley and Julia Hurley, sponsors Patrick and Honoria Crowley. The third was baptised 12/3/1838, parents John Crowley and Ellen Sullivan, sponsors John Mahony and Mary Hurley.

Patrick had at least one sibling, a sister Mary, according to his army paybook. He named her as next of kin. It is believed that she was named as his parents had emigrated and left Patrick and his siblings in the care of an uncle whose name is not known.

James Crowley, Southern California (jim@jimcee.com): I am James Patrick Crowley born 31 Dec 1950 in Detroit to Joseph Patrick Crowley and wife Delores. My father was born 13 March 1920 in Kinkora, Ontario and he died 11 Nov 1974. His parents were Jerimiah Joseph Crowley and wife Mildred. Jerimiah was also born in Kinkora in 1890 and died Dec 1950. I don't know Jerimiah's father's name (yet), but rumor has it that he was one of 3 brothers who immigrated to Ontario from County Cork in the 1850's.

I currently live with my wife Linda in Southern California and work as a mailman with USPS after retiring from the US Army.

GoDaddy.com sent me an email ad that "Crowley.com" was available as a domain name. That was untrue, it turns out. But after trying various concoctions of names, I found crowleyclan.com and your clan site with more info on my family name than I've been able to glean in decades. I'm so very glad I stumbled upon it and the information about the castle.

I also came across a photo montage of the 2007 gathering:

picasaweb.google.com/crowley.dan.maryjo/Ireland07CrowleyClanGathering with some fine pics of the castle and family crest. This has us excited, and we've penciled in Sep 2010 for a trip to Ireland and the 2010 gathering.

I'm wondering what is the nearest town to the castle, or has anyone determined the geo location (latitude/longitude) of the site, so we with computers could (maybe) peek, using GoogleEarth?

Just wanted to let you know that another sub-branch of the family/clan has discovered the rest!

Catherine Budd, Marathon, FL (cbudd713@comcast.net): Happy New Year! I have received a request from another Crowley to join our Family Tree DNA project, and I replied with the information. That will bring us up to 77 participants with 65 kits returned.

Please tell everyone that my email address has changed to the above. I am trying to notify all project participants. If any of the participants changed their email addresses, or if they have gotten email addresses for the first time, I'd appreciate it if they would let me know so I can update my files.

The Clans of Ireland (www.theclansofireland.ie): Thank you for returning your completed renewal form and cheque to cover payment of Membership renewal fee for 2009. I also wish to thank those who responded to my requests re: updating details on www.theclansofireland.ie

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Eibhlin Byrne, will officially open our Annual General Meeting on March 16th in Dublin.

Meet Jim Ritzert, Webmaster www.crowleyclan.com



How did you get started as the Crowley Clan webmaster?

Jim: In 2001, Taoiseach Tom Crowley registered the domain name, and arranged with Fiona Crowley and Mary Hanlee to create it. They created the “splash” page and designed the main page, but demands on their time prevented them from carrying the effort further. Tom asked if I would put some content behind the framework, and I agreed as my contribution to the Crowley Clan. The site now comprises about 160 pages.

What has been the most interesting part of the job?

Jim: I've increased my appreciation for the Crowley background and history, our heritage, and I've enjoyed the challenge of keeping up with evolving standards of web page construction. That's my technical bent showing through.

What is your background in Information Technology?

Jim: Oh, my! I wrote my first program in Fortran (a scientific language) in 1964 or 1965 to run on an IBM 1620 computer housed at Kent State University. I got my first paying job in IT in 1974, on an IBM 360 mainframe computer at a local bank. I spent the rest of my career, retiring in 2006, doing both application and system programming, mostly for financial institutions. I designed programs and application systems, as well as utility tools, and wrote in assembly language, COBOL and REXX. I found that I had a talent for debugging, and spent about 10 years of my career identifying and correcting program errors.

What are your hobbies?

Jim: I sing, as you know; I read voraciously, bake pie, do a little woodworking, and cross-stitch Christmas stockings. I volunteer at the USO care package facility locally. I bowl, ride short-line railroads, and can do a little impromptu bartending. I take photographs. I do Sudoku, and am learning Microsoft's Access database package.

Tell us about your family?

Jim: Tom Crowley is my second cousin; we share common ancestors in Denis and Ellen Hannon Crowley, who had about a dozen kids, so I've lots of Crowley cousins. I am the oldest of four, two brothers and one sister. My bride Marty and I have no children, nor do either of my brothers, but my sister has one of each.

Those of us who've met you at Crowley Gatherings know you have a fine singing voice. Where did that interest come from?

Jim: I've sung for as long as I can remember. My dad and I used to sing songs in harmony while we were doing the dishes. As a youth I enjoyed country music; country then gave way to folk music. I think ballads and “story” songs appealed to me more than “somebody done somebody wrong” songs, and, of course, there's nothing like a good, rousing drinking song. I've often said that I'll only sing if I've got enough whiskey in me, but the truth is that I'll work the pipes at the drop of a hat.

What is your goal for the Crowley Clan Website?

Jim: The site should say, “We are the Clan Crowley. This is where we came from; this is what we do; this

is where we are going.” We gather every three years to celebrate these things, and the site actively promotes the gatherings and fosters a sense of community in the Clan. I’ve put notices on the site of local family reunions; I’d like to see more of these. I’d like to get back to visitors being able to post to a guest book, but haven’t yet found a way to eliminate the spam postings. “Blogs” or bulletin boards are a possibility, but would require user ID’s, passwords, and the associated tracking and privacy overhead, to say nothing of the increased support requirements.

You have renovated the Crowley Clan Website. What are your hopes for the new site?

Jim: I had a couple of reasons for re-designing the site. After seven years, it was beginning to have a “worn” look, and I felt it needed to be freshened up. Still, there were characteristics of its original design that were unique. They set it apart from other web sites, and I wanted to keep them. Web page standards and browser design had both improved since the site originally went online, as had my experience with HTML, and I felt that it was time to get the site up to current standards. Finally, I wanted to make the site more accessible to people by making it more compatible with current browsers, including aural browsers (for people who are visually impaired). I wanted any visitor to be able to print the content of any page without burning through their color ink supply on decorative graphics and extraneous items like site menus.

You have said the Crowley Clan web site is the WORLD'S first impression of the clan. Tell us more.

Jim: They don't call it the **World** Wide Web for nothin'. While many of us have the site in our “Favorites”, anyone else in the world who is looking for information on the clan or the name uses a search engine to find us. The site is an introduction to who we are, our values, our heritage, and like any introduction, produces a lasting first impression. I want that introduction and first impression to be a good one.

Castle Fund Donations

From the November 2008 Newsletter

- Clem B. Crowley, Omaha, NB
- In Memory of John David Crowley
- Thomas Crowley, Akron, Ohio
- Jack Ridge, Mt. Hope, Ontario
- Judith Flumiani, Hamilton, Ontario
- Stanislaw & Ewa Pasyk, Burlington, Ontario
- Jim & Mary Leach, Hamilton, Ontario
- Alex Dale, London Ontario
- In Memory of Robert M. Crowley & Marjorie V. Crowley
- Marybeth Crowley Broderick
- Michael J. Crowley
- James P. Crowley, Lake Oswego, OR

From the March 2009 Newsletter

- In Memory of John David Crowley
Mary Amirault, Calgary, AB