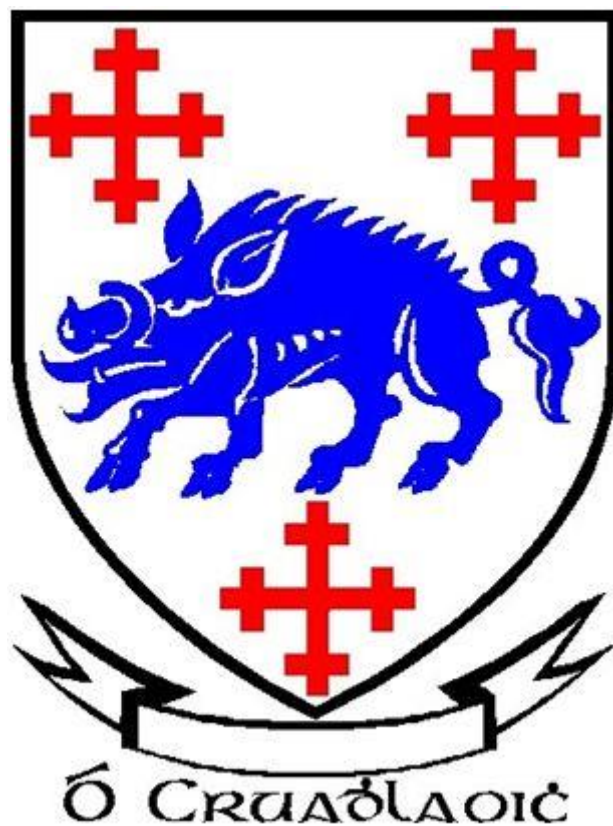


CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

July 2012

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



The Skibbereen Heritage Center A Source for Genealogists

When doing genealogy in Ireland on the Crowley surname, a good source to have is the Heritage Center in Skibbereen, which is the second largest town in Cork County and the most southerly town in Ireland. In famine times and today, the Crowley surname is very common. Even if you don't know for sure where your Crowley ancestor lived in County Cork, the Heritage Center in Skibbereen is worth your time.

Prior to the 1600s, the McCarthy Clan held most of the land in Skibb (as it is known). The Crowley Clan was closely aligned with the McCarthys and fought with them in battle. McCarthy is the most common name in Skibb, but Crowley is also strongly represented there.

The Heritage Center is on the edge of the downtown area in the historic Gasworks Building on Upper Bridge Street, telephone (353) 28 40900; e-mail info@skibbheritage.com. It is situated on the banks of the River Ilan and has walking and picnic grounds on the riverside. It is a good place to watch birds and water fowl.

The staff is friendly and knowledgeable about local history. In addition to an excellent exhibit about pre-famine history and a bookstore/gift shop, the center contains historical and genealogical records for the area. Many of the records can be accessed on the internet.

One database is of transcriptions from old graveyards in the area. This is an ongoing project of the Heritage Council. There are records from the 19th century Loan Fund institutions which provided credit to the poor. There are estate records from the Wrixon-Becher estate, and Tithe Applotment books from the 1820s and 1830s.

The center also has copies of Griffiths Valuation and 1901, 1911 Irish Census, and records from local churches. Searches are available for a donation.

The center is closed in the winter months, but is open March to November, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10am to 6pm.

Skibbereen is an interesting Irish town to visit. Their website is: www.skibbereen.ie/. The downtown is well preserved and has an historic feeling. It is an easy town for walking. Downtown streets are now one way, and traffic problems are not as bad as they used to be. It can be reached on R71 from Cork City. If you are in a self-catering cottage, it is a good town to visit for your groceries. There is also a lovely 18 hole golf course on the south side of town.

Notes from the Editor

We have several articles in this issue about traveling to Ireland. Summer and early fall are ideal times to see the Emerald Isle while the sun is shining and the temperatures are moderate. We have staged our Crowley Clan Gatherings in the month of September for a number of years. We might get an occasional chilly or rainy day, but for the most part the weather has been warm and dry.

In Crowley News on page four, Tom Crowley mentions that he will be in Ireland this Fall, and also that his cousin is going to the Rose of Tralee competition. What is the Rose of Tralee? It is an international festival held annually in the town of Tralee in County Kerry. The name of the festival is from the traditional Irish ballad, The Rose of Tralee. During the festival, young women of Irish heritage from all over the world compete for the title. To read more information, go to www.roseoftralee.ie. Please join us in wishing Ashley Speaker, great granddaughter of Mary Crowley, the best of luck!

Any of you who have been to a Crowley Gathering know Martin Crowley. His coaches (what we in the USA call buses) have transported us to the Crowley Castle, to hidden Mass rocks, to road bowling sites, and to other venues all over West Cork. Martin's company is now doing heritage tours, and he is offering a discount to Crowleys traveling in Cork this summer. His phone number and email address are on page four. Be sure to let him know when you book your tour that you are a Crowley, and that you saw this offer in the Crowley Clan Newsletter.

Many of us will be waiting until 2013 to travel to Ireland so that we can attend the Crowley Clan Gathering currently planned for September 13, 14, and 15 in Kinsale. That event is still in the planning stage, but the Crowley Clan Newsletter will release further information as it becomes available.

Anytime you are traveling in Ireland, if you have an interest in searching for your genealogy or in the history of Ireland, the Irish Heritage Centers should be on your itinerary. Each county has at least one center. In addition to the Skibbereen Heritage Center mentioned on page two, the center in Cobh has a multi-media exhibit that retraces the journey of the two and one-half million Irish people who emigrated from the port of Cobh during famine times. Many of our ancestors left from Cobh. Among others, there is also a center in Galway City that might be of interest to Crowleys traveling in the west of Ireland.

If you happen to be in Ireland between August 18 and 26 this summer, that week has been declared National Heritage Week in Ireland as a part Heritage Week in Europe. A variety of events are scheduled in County Cork ranging from a bell recital at St. Colman's in Cobh to a talk on piracy in Baltimore! It will be a great week to be in Ireland, but then isn't every week?

Mise le meas,

Marian

Crowley Clan News

Martin Crowley Coaches, County Cork, Ireland

(bookings@paradisecoaches.com):

Martin Crowley and Paradise Coaches are offering a variety of tours of Ireland this summer. You can go to www.paradisecoaches.com/ for full details. There are rural tours, urban tours and custom tours. We are a family based business and very proud of our service and our knowledge of West Cork and beyond.

As a special promotion this summer, we are offering a 10% discount to all members of the Crowley Clan. You can contact me by email or by phone at +353 87 2059226.

Sister Anne Marie Crowley, Manchester, England

(annemarieshalom@hotmail.co.uk):

Thanks for your good wishes for St. Patrick's Day. I send you and all the Crowley Clan my greetings and best wishes for a very happy St. Patrick's Day. I will remember you in my prayers. There will be a big parade in Manchester in honour of our dear Saint and it is usually very well attended. Last Friday we had a concert in our parish hall. We all joined in singing all the old Irish songs and a group of young children entertained us with their beautiful dancing. The seniors among us were just contented to clap and do a gentle jig or two. It was fun!

God bless you and all the Clan,

Sister Anne Marie Crowley,

(A West Cork exile)

Editor's Note: Sister Anne Marie is the sister of the late Donal Crowley who was a Taoiseach of the Crowley Clan.

Thomas Crowley, Ohio/Arizona, USA

(tcrow95758@aol.com):

I will be going to Ireland August 26 for three weeks. I plan to see Notre Dame beat the US Naval Academy in American football on September 1 in Dublin!

In the meantime, my cousin Ashley Speaker of Southington, Ohio was elected Northern Ohio Rose in the annual Rose of Tralee pageant (www.roseofTralee.ie). She will compete in the regional finals in Portlaoise, Ireland the first week in June. Her great-great grandmother was Mary Crowley, sister on my grandfather. Her grandmother Regina Speaker, attended the Crowley Gathering a few years ago.

The Irish Surname Keohane

Last summer's newsletter, included an article entitled The Crowley Keohane Connection. In that article, it was pointed out that there is a strong connection between the two clans, and there is speculation that they are two part of the same overall clan. There is anecdotal evidence of families changing back and forth from one name to the other.

The article also quoted www.keohane.org as saying "the view now held is that we are a branch of the Crowleys who somehow got lost in a fog, the Irish word ceocháin certainly means fog or mist."

However, after reading two accounts of the Battle of Kinsale, I have not found a reference to any Crowleys being late for the battle. More likely the English were better equipped and better trained.

Crowley Births in the Birth Register of Skibbereen Parish

*May 1838 through September 1839
submitted by Col. Myles R. O'Crowley
Previously Published in July 2006*

24 May 1838

Jerry Crowley
Parents: John Crowley & Mary McCarthy
Sponsors: Morty Savage & Honora McCarthy

24 Jun 1838

John Jeremiah Crowley
Parents: Charles Crowley & Mary Russel
Sponsors: James & Anne Crowley

24 Jun 1838

John Crowley
Parents: Cornelius Crowley & Joan Geany
Sponsors: Michael Hurley & Peg Geany

20 Jul 1838

Robert Crowley
Parents: Daniel Crowley & Mary Langton
Sponsors: Michael Langton & Mary Crowley

18 Aug 1838

Julia Crowley
Parents: John Crowley & Catherine O'Neil
Sponsors: Denis Neil & Ellen Neil

4 Oct 1838

Norry Crowley
Parents: Denis Crowley & Mary Barry
Sponsors: James Bernard & Anne Brickley

30 Oct 1838

Catherine Crowley
Parents: Cornelius Crowley & Ellen Collins
Sponsors: Jerry McCarthy & Bridget Hickey

14 Feb 1839

Catherine Crowley
Parents: Matthew Crowley & Mary Collins
Sponsors: Patrick Hurley & Katherine Bryan

13 Jul 1839

Jeremiah Crowley
Parents: Tim Crowley & B. Hegarty
Sponsors: John Harrington & Catherine Wholey

17 Jul 1839

Ellen Crowley
Parents: Tim Crowley & Mary Crowley
Sponsors: Denis Coughlan & Mary Mullawry

24 Sep 1839

Honora Crowley
Parents: Tim Crowley & Nelly Brown
Sponsors: Jerry Crowley & Mary Donovan

12 Nov 1839

Daniel Crowley
Parents: Tim Crowley & Ellen McCarthy
Sponsors: Tim McCarthy & Mary Fitzgerald

Sue Crowley Retires as Jeffrey Crowley Committee Chair

Welcome Sheryl Stanfill Our New Chair

Since 2008 Sue Crowley, (snobirdsue@gmail.com), has chaired our Jeffrey Crowley Committee. She has helped many descendants of Jeffrey, who was born in Warwickshire, England in 1702 and died in Halifax, Virginia in 1761, with their family research. Many of you will remember Sue from the Crowley Clan Gatherings that she and her family have attended in County Cork.



Now Sue is taking a much deserved rest from this post, and she is handing it on to the capable hands of Sheryl Stanfill, sherylssurveys@verizon.net.

"I have been very impressed with Sheryl," writes Sue. "I feel confident she will do a good job." We hate to see Sue retire. She has researched her husband's family for over 50 years. You can read an article she did for the newsletter in 2005 at www.crowleyclan.com. Click on newsletter, March 2005, Crowley Progenitors.

Sheryl reports: "I am a descendant from Jeffry, Benjamin, James, Allen, Josiah Allen, John William (Ivy) and J.W. Crowley. I am J. W.'s oldest child and have one sister and one brother.

I am 63 and will be 64 in November, and am married to my second husband for 37 years. I have one daughter age 43 from my 1st marriage."

Sheryl has been researching her family's history for about six years. She currently is trying to concentrate on her past two generations and her immediate Crowley cousins since her father and all of his sibling have passed.

"Unfortunately, I am not having a lot of success with some. Since I actually have a pretty good record of the family, I am really looking into family stories. I have included many of my own recollections and memories from several eulogies.

"I would not have the family tree I have today without the help of Sue Crowley and her sister-in-law Yvonne Davenport. Sometimes I think I have more information on their branch of the family than my own. The past year I have not really been working on my tree, but have tried to answer other inquiries in the Crowley family"

You can reach Sheryl by email or at

*33600 Calimesa Blvd. Sp. #25
Yucaipa, California 92399*

Check out [page seven](#) for an interesting article about Jeffrey Crowley's descendent Samuel Crowley (Croley).

Interesting Facts about Ireland And The Crowley Clan

Submitted by Bill Crowley

Bill Crowley who lives in Florida enjoys browsing the internet for information about Ireland and about Crowleys. Here are two interesting articles that he came upon recently.

Samuel Croley & The Revolutionary War

Original name: Samuel Crowley

Birth: c. 1750

Death: Oct. 10, 1774

Burial: Point Pleasant Cemetery, Point Pleasant, Mason County, West Virginia, USA

Samuel was the first American killed in the Revolutionary War. He died in the first battle of the Revolution.

The monument which carries the Crowley name is located at the battleground at the place where the Great Kanawha River flows into the Ohio. It is called Point Pleasant and is now a park, site of a battle on 10 Oct 1774 between a coalition of 800 Shawnee, Mingo & Delaware against Virginia forces under Colonel Andrew Lewis. About 51 Virginians were killed that day.

Ref. www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=4973

Note on Samuel:

Samuel was the fourth child of Jeffery Crowley (Croley) and his wife Effie. He was born in Virginia and married Elizabeth Strong. They had seven children: Effannah, James, Mary, John, Agnes, Littleberry, and William). After Samuel's death, Elizabeth moved to Georgia.

Niall of the Nine Hostages

Niall was High King of Ireland from 377 to 404 AD. His father was Eochaidh Muigh-Medon, of the Celtic line of Erimhon or Heremon and his mother was Carthann Cas Dubh, daughter of the king of Britain.

Niall's ancestry can be traced back to Miledh or Milesius of Esbain, King of Spain, whose wife was the daughter of the Egyptian Pharaoh Nectonibus and who was the ancestor of all the Celts in Ireland. From there the line goes back fifteen generations to Niul, from whom the river Nile got its name, who was married to the daughter of Pharaoh Cingris, who drowned in the Red Sea when Moses rejoined the parted waters after the Israelites had made good their escape.

As High King of Ireland, Niall reigned from the ancient Irish royal seat at Tara, in modern County Meath. During his reign he conquered all of Ireland and Scotland as well as much of Britain and Wales. He took a royal hostage from each of the nine kingdoms he subjugated, hence his famous nickname.

Ref. freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~larkin/documents/IrishSeptsVol1.pdf

Note on Niall: A study at Trinity College Dublin, found that a striking percentage of Irish men share the same Y chromosome, suggesting that "Niall of the Nine Hostages" may be the ancestor of one in 12 Irishmen. Niall established a dynasty of chieftains who dominated the island for six centuries.

Ref. www.familytreedna.com/landing/matching-niall.aspx

CrowleyClan.Com on Facebook

The Crowley Clan joined Facebook on September 26, 2011. During the first nine months of its existence, the page has reached about 200 separate viewers per month. The trend is for about 60% female, but in some age groups, for example 35 to 44, it is about equal male to female. And, the trend is constantly changing.

During the last month, we reached people in eleven countries including Norway, Japan, and Germany. Most popular cities are Lubbock, Texas, Cork, Ireland, and Manchester, England. We now have 171 "likes". Posts on the site include mention of family reunions, of trips to Ireland, and of connections to the Crowleys.

We hope you will take the time to stop by and view our page at:

www.facebook.com/pages/crowleyclancom/284347731575974. Tell us about your Crowleys, or just tell us what you think of our page. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.