

CROWLEY CLAN NEWSLETTER

March 2012

compiled by Marian Crowley Chamberlain



Follow CrowleyClan.Com on Facebook

You can now follow the Crowley Clan on Facebook and connect with Crowleys from all over the world. The social networking giant is global and boasts 800,000,000 active users throughout the world. It provides the Crowley Clan with an excellent vehicle for reaching more Crowleys, and gaining an understanding of our place in the world today. Plus, it is fun hearing from the members of our far-flung clan.



Since joining Facebook, we have reached people in over 20 countries including Indonesia, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, India, Anguilla, Chile, Greece and Honduras! The three countries with the highest number of people reached are, not surprisingly, United States, Canada, and United Kingdom. We have people using the page in eight languages. And, to date, we have 76 people who have clicked on the "Like" button.

Next time you are on the web, stop by and check out the crowleyclan.com page. Write on our wall, and tell us about yourself, about your ancestors, or ask a question about our clan. A few weeks ago we had a user ask how to pronounce O'Crudhlaoich which is the Crowley name in Irish. Fortunately, we had two Irish speakers join the discussion and help us all to sound out the ancient version of our name.

To view our page, you can use the link below. The [Crowleyclan.com Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/Crowleyclan.com) is administered by Stephany Crowley and Marian Crowley Chamberlain.

Crowley Clan DNA Project Update from Cathy Budd



We have 99 members listed in the project now. I would love to break 100 this spring. None of the kits I distributed at the Gathering in 2010 have been returned. If anyone wants to participate in the project, please contact me by email or via the link at Family Tree DNA. If you have lost or misplaced your kit I can easily replace it, just let me know at: cbudd713@comcast.net.

Notes from the Editor

This issue marks the beginning of the 17th year of the Crowley Clan Newsletter. So much has happened since 1995, which was the year of my first trip to Ireland. Lamb stew and salmon were the only entrees available in many restaurants in West Cork. Wine was not to be seen, but that allowed us to enjoy a pint of Murphy's with our dinner. The rental cars were all standard transmission, the roads were ALL narrow and windy. But the B&Bs were comfortable, if not warm. The Irish breakfasts were as fantastic then as they are now. The people were friendly, helpful, and wanted to talk, talk, talk! Some things haven't changed and may they never.

Eight years later, the newsletter went on-line, thanks to our Webmaster Jim Ritzert. And, last Fall, CrowleyClan.Com went on Facebook! Why Facebook? It reaches 800,000,000 people worldwide. It is the preferred social media for younger people. It is easy to use, and communication is almost instantaneous. It will be interesting to see what, if any, influence this has on the number of attendees and the number from countries not usually represented this will have on future gatherings.

Also in this issue, Maureen Crowley from Petersborough, Ontario tells us a little bit about herself, about traveling in Ireland by public transportation, and about the Irish immigration into Canada in 1825 lead by Peter Robinson. Maureen also brings up a good suggestion. Wouldn't it be great if we had a data base of Crowleys that would be available for comparisons by Crowley family genealogists? I'd love to see that happen. What do we have to do to make this wish a reality?

Maureen has been very good in the past with sharing photos of her Crowley family in the Petersborough St. Patrick's Day parade. Hope she does again this year. What about the rest of you? How do you celebrate St. Patrick's Day? Are there parades, celebrations, parties? Share your memories and your photos with the newsletter so we can see how Crowleys in other parts of the world commemorate the day.

Catherine Crowley Budd has been our DNA project coordinator since the beginning of the project. The project is reaching a milestone, it currently has 99 participants. We soon will pass the 100 mark. Wouldn't you or someone in your family like to have the distinction of being the 100th participant? Contact Cathy at cbudd713@comcast.net.

As always, please let me know if you have any comments, suggestions, or contributions of material you would like to share in the Crowley Clan Newsletter.

Mise le meas,

Marian

Crowley Clan News

Christopher O'Connor, Crystal Lake, IL, USA:

(c.l.oconnor@me.com):

My name is Christopher O'Connor. I have a CROWLEY relative, specifically my great grandfather (William CROWLEY) on my maternal side. I cannot locate any information pertaining to William's parents.

William's records indicate that he was born 10 April 1870 in St. John, New Brunswick. He died 28 June 1920 in Boston, Massachusetts and is buried in New Calvary Cemetery.

William married Margaret Burke in Boston on 16 April 1899 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. Her parents were Henry Burke and Margaret Ruane. He was naturalized on 12 October 1903 in the United States Circuit Court in Boston, Massachusetts. William was Roman Catholic and a teamster. I find him in Boston in the 1900, 1910, and 1920 Federal Census.

I am looking for information pertaining to William's parents. Can anyone assist me in attempting to locate this information?

Lee Lott:

(lee.lott@yahoo.com):

Hi, my wife's great-great-great grandmother Catherine Crowley was born in County Cork, Ireland in approximately 1810-30. She moved to Wisconsin.

Catherine's father was Dennis Crowley also from County Cork. Would anyone happen to know anything regarding these individuals? Thanks!

Editor's note:

Despite the fact that neither of these individuals are males with the Crowley surname, they still might benefit from participation in the Crowley DNA project. If they can find a male relative with the Crowley name such as a cousin or uncle, that person could submit a sample for comparison.

The test is easy and painless. And family members might go together to pay the fee to Family Tree DNA. Go to www.familytreedna.com for full information, or contact our project coordinator Catherine Crowley Budd at cbudd713@comcast.net.

Phillip Crowley, Myrtle Beach, SC:

(want2bclimbing@yahoo.com):

I am interested in subscribing to your Crowley Newsletter and also joining the Crowley DNA project. I live in Myrtle Beach, SC. Is there an online process for signing up for your news letter and DNA project, or would you have a phone number I can call? Thank you for your time and attention to this matter!

Editor:

At present we do not have an online process for subscribing to the newsletter or joining the DNA project. Past issues of the newsletter are available at www.crowleyclan.com or by sending \$8 to

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For the DNA project, contact Cathy at the email address above.

The Crowleys and the Battle of Clontarf

The 1,000th anniversary of one of the most important battles in Irish history will take place in 2014. On April 23, 1014, which was Good Friday, forces of the High King of Ireland, Brian Boru, and forces of the King of Leinster, Máel Mórda Mac Murchada, fought at Clontarf near Dublin.

Brian Boru had been largely successful in uniting all of the provinces of Ireland. But, in 1012, Máel Mórda mac Murchada of Leinster revolted. Brian and his son Murchad marched to Dublin. Máel Mórda, with aid from the Orkneys and the Isle of Man, attempted to surprise Brian. He left a small force in Dublin, but he and his Viking allies sailed north and landed on the River Liffey at Clontarf.

Brian had aligned 1,400 warriors from Munster and Connacht on his left along the beach, with his line extending inland. On his right, were nearly 1,000 Manx Vikings and other mercenaries. Máel Mórda arranged his forces with Vikings in the center and Isle of Man troops on the right near their ships. The left was largely composed of men from Leinster and Dublin. Then, the two armies fought with Máel Mórda and his allies gaining an early advantage. On the beach, the Isle of Man troops were gaining ground until they encountered Brian's brother, Wolf the Quarrelsome. Wolf knocked their leader, Bodir, to the ground forcing them to flee.

Then, Brian's forces gained the upper hand. They pushed Máel Mórda's men back on both flanks, and cut them off from their ships. They began fleeing back towards Dublin and retreated towards a bridge, but the Meath troops arrived there first and cut off Máel Mórda's escape. With the enemy trapped, Brian's forces attacked and killed Máel Mórda and the majority of his army.

During this battle, legend says that Brian Boru was impressed with the fighting of our clan's fighting men. He called their leader over, and dubbed him "Hard Warrior" (Cruadlaoich).

During the battle, Brian withdrew to his tent to pray. He was spotted by Brodir, who, after his defeat by Wolf, had fled into the nearby woods. With a band of men, Brodir attacked Brian's tent and killed the king and his retainers. Wolf tracked down Brodir and killed him in revenge.

Brian Boru lost about 4,000 men. His army lost several important leaders. Máel Mórda paid for his defeat with his life and those of around 6,000 of his men. Though a victory for Brian's forces, his death, and the deaths of several of his family led to a power vacuum. The Vikings were defeated, but Ireland soon sank into war between the provinces.

Information for this article from: www.yourirish.com/battle-of-clontarf



Meet Maureen Crowley

Chair of the Peter Robinson Crowleys Committee

When did you become involved with the Crowley Clan?

I have always been interested in knowing more about the Crowley history, especially in Ireland. I knew my Canadian family history, but had little information on the Ireland connections. In my research I found information on the Crowley Clan on the internet. The more I read about the Crowley's the more I wanted to know. In 2007 my two sisters Cathy Soroff, Lori Cowan and my daughter Brittany attended our first Crowley Clan Gathering. It met more than our expectations, and we thoroughly enjoyed it.

What have been some of the high points of your involvement?

The high point was going to the Clan Gathering. It was a great time and a wonderful failure. I especially enjoyed seeing our Castle. It was like stepping back in time. I tried to imagine our ancestors living there, wondering about their lives and how they survived. It was magical.

What is your professional background?

I am in my 28th year working as an educator for Peterborough Fire Services. I teach fire and life safety to the public. This is my last year and I plan to retire in 2013.

What are your interest and hobbies?

Family and friends are important to me. When I am not at home with them, then I enjoy a good adventure. I love to travel especially to Ireland, visiting the off-beat places checking out the history and scenery. I am interested in history, so travel and history are a great combination. I was involved in writing a book on the Peterborough Fire Department, Fighting Fires In Peterborough. I like walking and enjoy nature.

Tell us about your family and about your Crowley ancestors?

I am 28 years married with three children and a little granddaughter. My family has never ventured far from where our ancestors settled. My two brothers still remain on the Crowley homestead on Crowley Line. The road got its name because of the many Crowley families that settled there. My father Claire Crowley passed away in 2002. I also have 3 sisters.

Our family came to Peterborough in 1825 along with many other immigrants under the command of Peter Robinson. Many of the families came from the area of Mitchelstown, ours from Ballyporeen. The families settled in Peterborough, Ontario Canada.

My ancestors Patrick Crowley(1780) and his wife Alice O'Keilly(1785) along with children, Mary, James, David, Michael, Catherine, Patrick, and Julia settled on land just outside Peterborough where our family still resides. James married Catherine Leahy, and they the parents of my great grandfather.

You are the chair of the Peterborough, Ontario Crowley Committee. Tell us about Peterborough and the Crowley's?

There are 42 Crowley families that live within a 20 mile radius around Peterborough. I have not yet organized a formal gathering; this will be one of my initiatives when I have some time in my retirement. However I did send out a newsletter with information on the Crowley Clan.

You backpacked around Ireland with a friend last year. What was that like? Do you have any advice for others who might be interested in traveling Ireland by public transportation?

After dreaming about it for 30 years, my best friend and I finally backpacked through Ireland, and we had a fantastic time.

Public transportation is a great way to see Ireland without the fear of driving on the other side of narrow roads with no shoulders. It does have its up and downs. Ireland has a great public transportation system. A Combination Pass will allow using both the bus and the train a selected amount of days. The trains provide a more direct route and are spacious. However, they don't go everywhere. Combination Passes can be bought at the larger train stations. A pass is good if you plan on making lots stops. You can purchase point to point tickets if you plan on only a few stops. The bus goes to more places but takes longer. You can check both the bus and train schedule on line to see when they run. We took a bus from Cork to Bantry, had a lovely chat with the bus driver who knew the Crowleys well. It's a good way to meet the locals and get some travel ideas. Check accommodations within a walking distance to the bus and train stops. Book accommodation before you leave home. It's a good idea to do some research on where the train stations are in relation to the tourist attractions and accommodation. You can also take a cab. Research and planning is important and half the fun.

Think about taking organized tours from major cities if you want to get access to many tourist attractions in a short amount of time. Dublin runs tours to major attractions. Combining your own personal tour with an organized tour group gives you the freedom to be on your own as well as seeing major attractions that don't have a direct public transportation connection. One of the major obstacles with public transportation is that you may have some difficulties getting to where you want to go or have to deal with long wait times.

Remember to pack light, a carry-on and small back pack is all that you need. What you pack you have to carry. Travelling light saves time as you don't have to check it in at the airport or wait for your bags. You would be surprised what you really don't need.

What goals would you like to see the Crowley Clan set for the future years?

Continue with the building of relationships and sharing information with each other. I would like to see a research data bank where each family could add their family history. The program would sort through the data and connect families who have similar information. It's great to be a Crowley. How many families take the time and effort to connect as a group like the Crowleys do? Proud of our past looking forward to our future.

Crowley Gifts for St. Patrick's Day

When St. Patrick's Day arrives, the Crowley Store has some great gift ideas for you. Sharon Crowley manages our store on-line at www.cafepress.com/crowleyclan or www.zazzle.com/crowleyclan*

Sharon has designed t-shirts, mugs, stationery, and we even have our own US postage stamps to put on St. Patrick's Day greeting cards. A portion of the profits goes to the Crowley Clan.