

FLANNAGAN FAMILY

CLANN O'FLANNAGAIN

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Clan Flanagan

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EDITOR-CHARLES FLANAGAN

NEWSLETTER

## SO YOU WANT TO FIND YOUR ANCESTORS

You got the bug. You have some names and dates of your ancestors and you are curious as to where they came from and when. Where do you start ??

The first thing you want to do is have some kind of program to store and file and cross reference this information. It will grow and grow and you best have it organized as you add to it. Typed lists are nice, but hard to transfer into an organized file that will sort and correct erroneous information. There are several programs out there to serve this purpose. Find and use the one that you are comfortable with .

Establish a "Reference Library" folder in your computer. Or add them to you favorites on your search engine such as Outlook Express. As you read your mail, you can add these sources to you library for ready reference and access.

Read the History of the area you are researching. You might be looking for someone from the 1700's, in a place name of today that was changed in the last 200 to 300 years. A good example is the census of 1659 for county Fermanagh and the Evaluation by Griffith completed in 1864. Modern spelling took over and simplified a lot of townland names.

You can find just about anything of anyplace on today's computers. Start with biggest and work you way down to the end item. EXAMPLE: N. Ireland, Fermanagh, Derrygonnelly.

Good Hunting

## THE HILL OF TARA

Thought I would share a little bit of our/my experience regarding our trip to Eirie. After a day or two in Dublin where we visited Strongbow's tomb in Christ Church and visiting St Patricks Cathedral, Dublin Castle and listening to various bus drivers give their individual stories of the same information especially of the deafness of Mrs Arthur Guinness who had given birth to 23 or so children because she said 'what?'( I'll tell you that one later) and immediately after the Clans of Ireland meeting, we drove northwards and called into a little village called Rush (our mother's maiden name is Rush so it follows that we would go there) and that was our first experience of the little fishing villages along the way and this caused me to drive the others mad by commenting at each one that "I could live here". Vicki's daughter is named Tara and so it is fair to say that we were all keen to visit the Hill of Tara for that as well as historical and spiritual reasons. The Hill itself is off the beaten track and a little difficult to find as the signage to it is quite poor, but being bushies from Aus we followed our Flanagan noses and finally found it. We three knew we were close as a 'sense of quiet' came over us as we drove along the laneways. Upon parking the car we found ourselves at the obligatory "comfort station" and gift shop but The Hill was what we came to see and see it we did..and walked upon it and followed the signs to the different locations as per the geologically and historically proven sites of The Hill. The mound which was the prison of the 'nine hostages'; the site of throne where the Kings of old were crowned, the banquet hall. All seemed to come alive. We three had an unspoken understanding of what we were doing on

our individual journeys  
 and bless Nola and Vicki, they left me to myself when I  
 needed to be  
 alone and we laughed lots at other times. And on the  
 Hill of Tara I  
 wept for the first time, but certainly not the last, on that  
 journey.  
 An overwhelming sense of sadness, loss and belonging,  
 and yet not  
 belonging came over me and I would have liked to have  
 stayed there  
 alone to sit and ponder life as it was and as it is today  
 but we had to  
 move along. I will never forget that experience and wish  
 to return some  
 day. The 360 degrees views are breathtaking and the  
 atmosphere is  
 magical.  
 Those of you who have been there will know what I  
 mean and those of you  
 who haven't been there but plan to do so had better make  
 your plans to  
 go soon as it seems that the Irish Government has de-  
 cided to build a  
 road through The Hill and thus destroy more of Irish  
 history and  
 heritage.

## PLACES OUR GROUP WAS BORN

Grenfell New South Wales, Australia; Prince  
 George, British Columbia; Holly Springs, North  
 Carolina; Hornell, New York; Clark County, Wash-  
 ington; North Carolina; Thomasville, Georgia; De-  
 troit, Michigan; Gross Point, Michigan; Banning,  
 California; Moreno Valley, California; Lexington,  
 Kentucky; Kingston, Ontario, Canada; Independ-  
 ence, Missouri; Borger, Texas; Searcy, Arkansas;  
 San Diego, California; Pikeville, Kentucky; Balti-  
 more, Maryland; Lee County; Canton, Georgia;  
 Russell County, Kentucky.

## BIRTHDAYS

Jan 12, 24, 27; Mar 3, 28; April 25; May 4, 6; June  
 6, 19, 20, 29; July 4, 5, 17; Aug 5, 18, 29; Sept 21,  
 25; October 8, 13, 28; Nov 4, 15, 20, 25; Dec 9, 10,  
 12, 14.

## PLACES WE LIVE

Cherry Valley, California; Angres, Michigan; Vir-  
 ginia, McKinley, Texas; Borger, Texas; Little  
 Rock, Arkansas; Hornell, New York; Tremont,  
 Mississippi; Morehead, Kentucky; Hilton, New  
 York; Indianapolis, Indiana; Houston, Texas; East  
 side of Michigan.

## OCCUPATIONS

Quality Control; Office manager; Bartender; health  
 aide; Dental Hygienist; Orthodontist; Surveyor;  
 farmer; dairy farmers; bank officer; semi-retired;  
 retired; teacher; town board member; social  
 worker; Auto mechanic; air conditioner and refrig-  
 eration mechanic; offshore oil rig worker; milk  
 tester; academic librarian; boat tech; lab worker;  
 bus driver; factory worker; Mississippi river boat  
 captain; technical writer; store owner; steamfitter;  
 inventor; preacher; executive management, engi-  
 neer; healthcare research; church office manager;  
 journalist; author; fruit tree inspector; wood carver;  
 herbalist; pharmacist; sewing machine mechanic;  
 deputy sheriff and other law enforcement; judge.

## TIDBITS

I worked at a LDS family center for two years helping  
 people find their roots while in Spokane, Washington,. I  
 logged on as <[Buddyf@ieway.com](mailto:Buddyf@ieway.com)>, I put some stuff in  
 the archives under that name. back in late 1990's  
 The brought in a new director, he asked me to leave  
 when he found out I was Catholic.  
 here is one collection they in have in Utah, that might  
 have finally been indexed and published.  
 It is called "the Frank Wright collection" of miscel-  
 laneous materials on Ireland. Very extensive and  
 loaded with names, dates, old papers, etc.,  
 Ask for it. Bud, 'again

Sixty percent of people who answered the poll had only  
 gone back 3 generations. Forty percent had gone back 4  
 or more generations with 2 having gone back 8 genera-  
 tions.

## Flanagan Authors

Annie Flannigan - Robert Flanagan Sheila  
 O'Flanagan General Edward M. Flanagan,  
 Jr. . Homas Flanagan, Michal Ann Perry  
 (Micki), Randy Flanagan

## I GO BACK

BY RANDY FLANAGAN

He was proud to be a Virginian  
She was from the Land of the Cherokee  
Some said they met at "Lover's Leap"  
The beginning of our family.  
They setup their housekeeping  
Fashioned with the 1800's style  
He began his daily plowing  
She met him each night with a smile.  
Then love brought the kids along  
Boys and girls counting eleven  
But God thought they were overcrowded  
Two girls he took to Heaven.  
I've heard many colorful stories  
A feud with no winner to be  
When Granny "put her foot down"  
They packed up for Tennessee  
Away from the mountains to a smoother ground  
New housekeeping was setup here  
A better place for nine children  
Land where Granny didn't have to fear.  
My daddy told me about them  
My Grandfather added Family lore  
Pa Bill's handlebar moustache  
And Granny's hair that touched the floor.  
How I wish I could have known them  
The stories they could tell  
And me worrying them with questions  
Only interrupted by Granny's dinner bell.  
Hard work bought them several acres  
I Go Back where the old house stood  
And listen for their voices  
From the past and splintered wood.  
And when I gaze across the fields  
It's like time travels with me  
A man and a woman holding hands  
A wave from Pa Bill and Granny.

**My book was released July 23rd of this year by PublishAmerica in Baltimore, Maryland. It is entitled, Pictures from the Heart : A Collection of Poetry by Randy L. Flanagan . The synopsis on the back cover reads something like, From the Libra Scales of 1951 to early influences of Rock' N Roll through the Cotton Mill Days in Bemis, TN this rural West Tennessee poet shares his Family, Life and Memories through pictures of rhyme about the serious, humorous and odd aspects of life. It is divided into 3 sections Family, Life and Memories so there are several Flanagan stories inside about G.Grandparents, Grandparents, Mother & Father, Flanagan Reunion, etc**

**Randy Flanagan**

## FLANAGAN REUNION

BY RANDY FLANAGAN

It's great to finally have a Get-Together  
For some we thought it would never be  
But, Welcome to all you Foreigners  
And those right here from Tennessee!

Look at all the name tags  
Just smile, Greet and Meet  
Let's all do a little socializing  
Then we'll share something to eat.

Let's think about our Ancestry  
In reverence to those gone on before  
Share some of your stories and memories  
And maybe take some out the door.

Some can remember Pa Bill and Granny  
But they had to leave before I could  
I remember from Uncle Jim on down  
The reunions and smell of stew over firewood.

All the family and neighbors here gathering  
It was actually a community event  
But just to be a part of it  
I realize was a Blessing, Heaven sent.

I remember Aunt Lela buck-dancing  
The stories all my brothers told  
My Grandmother Zula cooking for a week  
All the wine and carvings Uncle John could have sold.

My Grandfather Ike and his fish stories  
Hunting with Uncle Charlie, and Uncle Ben's grin  
Uncle Murvel and Minton coming from the "City"  
All us kids wide-eyed taking it in.

I recall Dad waiting for my Grandmother's coconut cake  
You can see I never wait too long  
The fiddles and guitars and music played  
My memories linger like an old song.

I didn't know Aunt Fannie as well  
Bettie and Alice we never knew  
The Angels took them as babies  
Waiting for that Glorious Reunion like me and you.

I couldn't mention everyone  
There's so many in this colorful Clan  
But remember we're all Loved Ones  
Whether by marriage or Full-Blooded FLANAGAN!!

## Clann O'Flannagain Delegates Attend Clanns of Ireland AGM

As scheduled, the Clanns of Ireland held its Annual General Meeting in Dublin on 28 April 2007 with three delegates from Clann O'Flannagain being present. Nola Flanagan-Shirley traveled from the USA to meet her sister, Joy Flanagan-Gardner, Secretary/Treasurer of the Clann and niece Vicki Flanagan-Green so that all could attend the meeting on Clann members' behalf.

Due to delays and change of speakers the meeting commenced a little late however the wait was well worth it.

All in attendance were riveted to their seats as they listened to Patrick Guinness talk about the archaeological history of Ireland making a stop at the Ceide fields a must for us.

Following Patrick's address we were held entranced by the presence of Mr Fergus Gillespie, the Chief Herald of Ireland.

Mr Gillespie proved himself a wealth of knowledge on all things to do with heraldry, coats of arms and family crests.



*Left: Mr Fergus Gillespie  
Chief Herald of Ireland*

*Below: Interest in the  
Tierney exhibit while  
others clan representa-  
tives enjoy catching up  
on the news*



*Above: Archaeological 'dig' outside of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, where remains of Viking times have been unearthed. This monumental find was mentioned by Patrick Guinness in his address to the meeting.*



*Above; A display of information by Clann Flannery at the Clanns of Ireland AGM.*

Included in the Clann Flannery exhibition were details of the DNA program and results; the who is who of the Clann, the Clann Flannery Newsletter, Membership details, Famous Flannerys and other up to date news.

Clann Tierney's exhibit showed an extensive family tree as well as DNA updates and news, the Clann Newsletter and other relevant news.

Across the board all clann displays were extremely interesting and a wonderful insight into how Clann O'Flannagain can progress in comparison and in line with other member clans. An exhibit of information would be welcomed by the Clanns of Ireland members at next years' Annual General Meeting in 2008.

*Pictured Left: L to R: Joy, Vicki and Nola,  
enjoying the beauty and history of Ireland  
with a hint of Scotland on the horizon.*