

USA/Canada Clan Egan

Issue 1

2004

Clan Egan 2004 Rally Ireland

Byron F. Egan
President
USA/Canada Clan Egan Association
Dallas, Texas

Fellow Egan/Eagen/Egan/Keegan Clan Members

Our next Clan Egan Rally will be June 24-27, 2004 in Ireland. This will be a seminal event to follow the successes of our Rallies held in 2000 in Ireland and in 2002 in Australia.

Our Chief Michael J.S. Egan has developed exciting plans for the Rally that will include places we have not visited before, together with some traditional places from a new perspective. For those of you who have come to prior Rallies, the new venues and perspectives should make this an exciting series of events.

For those who are coming to your first Rally, you will have the opportunity to see Redwood Castle, which has been at the epicenter of Clan Egan for a Millennium.

Egan Coat of Arms

Fortitude and Prudence



Each time I come to Redwood I have a sense of *deja vu* – a sense that I am on the same soil that my ancestors walked for centuries before, and that I am where I belong. This is an experience I cherish to share with my wife and children.

As described elsewhere herein and on the Clan website (www.clanegan.org), the tentative itinerary will commence with a day in Dublin, during which we will visit Christ Church Cathedral, the Guinness Brewery (a very mellow place where we can confirm whether a Guinness is built or poured), the Royal Hospital Kilmainham (circa 1690 and recently restored as an Irish art center), the Dublin Zoo, the National Museum and Trinity College (where among other things we will see the magnificent Book of Kells). The next morning we will caravan through Newgrange (where we will go into a structure that will show the ancients' amazing grasp of science and mathematics) to Athlone, which will be our base in the west. From Athlone we will take a Viking boat big enough for 71 people down the Shannon River to Clonmacnois and Blackwater Bog. We will conclude on Sunday, June 27, with a gathering at Redwood Castle.

A Rally is more than geography. Most of us come to learn more about our roots and perhaps to find missing links to our ancestors who left Ireland long ago. This Rally will provide ample opportunities to learn more about our Egan heritage from excellent programs and

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Clan Rally 2004 Programme of Events

Michael J. S. Egan

Chief, Clann Mac Aodhagáin (Egan) Association

Dublin, Ireland

	Date	Time	Activity	Location
Thursday	24 June	9.30am	Assembly at Jurys Christchurch Inn	Jurys Christchurch Inn, Dublin 8
			Registration	Jurys Christchurch Inn, Dublin 8
			Visit Christ Church Cathedral	Christchurch, Dublin 8
			Bus Tour: www.irishcitytours.com	
			- St Patrick's Cathedral	Patrick Street, Dublin 8
			- Guinness Storehouse	James Street, Dublin 8
			- Royal Hospital	Kilmainham, Dublin 8
			Lunch	
			Bus Tour (con't)	Phoenix Park, Dublin 8
			- Dublin Zoo	
- National Museum of Ireland	Collins Barracks, Dublin 7			
- Trinity College	Trinity College, Dublin 2			
- St Werburgh's Church	Werburgh Street, Dublin 8			
Friday	25 June	09.30am	Dinner	
			Cars leave Jurys Inn	
			Visit to Newgrange/Knowth Neolithic Sites	Co Meath
			Lunch at Visitors Centre	Newgrange
			Drive to Athlone	Co Westmeath
Saturday	26 June	09.30am	Visit Athlone Castle	Athlone
			Dinner	Athlone
			Assemble for Shannon Boat Cruise	Athlone
			Cruise on Shannon	Athlone
			(Viking boat, 71 seat capacity!)	
			Stop at Clonmacnoise	Co Offaly
			Lunch on board or at Shannonbridge	Co Offaly
			Bog Tour	Co Offaly
			Boat or bus return to Athlone (Weather depending)	Co Westmeath
			Dinner at Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone	Co Westmeath
Sunday	27 June	09.00	Irish music, dancing & magic show @ hotel	Co Westmeath
			Assemble for drive to Redwood Castle	Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone
			Mass at Lorrha	Co Tipperary
			Church of Ireland Service, Lorrha	Co Tipperary
			Return to Redwood Castle	Co Tipperary
		19.00	Lunch	
			Lecture on "Mac Egan Clan"	Redwood Castle
			Tea and Sandwiches	Redwood Castle
			Lecture on "DNA made Simple"	Redwood Castle
			Dispersal	Redwood Castle

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NOTE: 1 EUR = \$1.25790 US (Jan 25, 2004)
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Accommodation

We have reserved 60 rooms at Jurys Christchurch Inn. This is a vital booking and all should reserve places with **Morag Mitchell** as soon as possible. Details of other accommodation in Athlone are all available on the Egan Clan website.

Jurys Christchurch Inn	c.€127 double room	-details above
Creggan Court Hotel	c.€60 double room	-details above
Lough Ree Hotel	c.€20pp	-www.athlonehostel.ie Ph 09064 76738
B&B's	c.€30pps	-www.goireland.com (Co Westmeath)
Redwood Castle		-Ph 09097 47073

Other Budget Costs:

Registration €20 Children Free, Lunch c.€10 Dinner c€25, Clonmacnoise €tbc, Bog Tour €tbc,
Transport- own cars, bus from Athlone to Clonmacnoise/Shannonbridge and/or back from Clonmacnoise/Shannonbridge to Athlone.

Historical: A map and brief history for each of the following places will be available at Redwood Castle.

DERRYMACEGAN	PORTLAND CHAPEL	BEHAMORE CASTLE
MODREENY	PORTUMNA PRIORY/CASTLE	NENAGH HERITAGE CENTRE
DUNIRY	ANNAMEADLE	GORT NA PLEADALA
CLONFERT CATHEDRAL	DRUMNAHANE CASTLE	BIRR CASTLE

Genealogical: Notice boards will be provided at the main hotels for exhibits or queries left by those attending.

Contacts:

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Mobile: 087 2222770
e-mail: michael.egan@pmg.ie

Jurys Christchurch Inn
Christ Church
Dublin 8
Ph: 01 4540000 or 4100121
Fax: 01 4540012

Morag_mitchell@jurysdoyle.com
http://www.jurysdoyle.com/dublin/hotel_jurys_christchurch.htm

Creggan Court Hotel
Athlone
Co Westmeath
Ph: 09 064 777 77
Fax: 09 064 771 11
Info@creggancourt.com
<http://www.creggancourt.com/>

NOTE: Please fill out the registration form, accompanying this Newsletter, and send it to Michael JS Egan, by email or by post, at the above Dublin address, as soon as possible.

Opening letter from the President

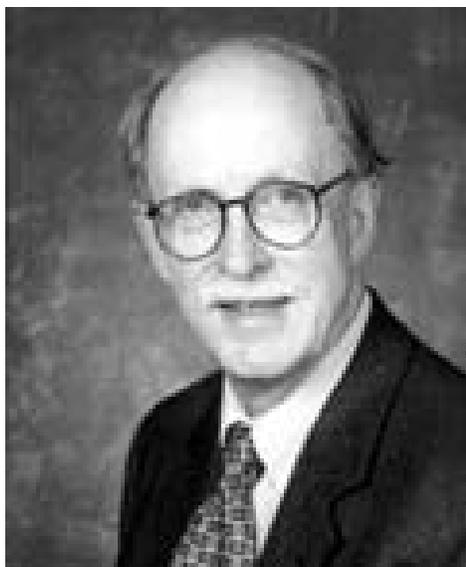
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from those who have come from all over the world to share their Clan experiences and genealogical knowledge, and to learn from and about us. We will hear and see how Eagans, Eagens, Egans, Keegans and others come from the same ancestors.

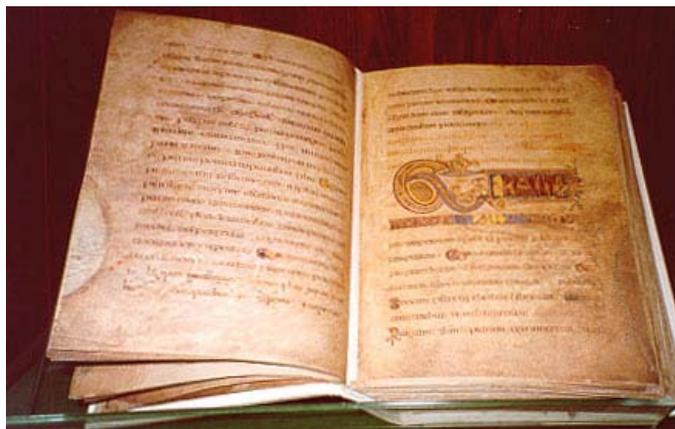
Accommodations have been arranged for the group as described elsewhere herein, but space is limited. Since we will be in Ireland at the best time of the year, you need to confirm your accommodations and air passage soon. Please register early so that our Chief will have a good head count for making preparations for the various events.

Michael has arranged for us a Rally that offers experiences old and new to be remembered long after. My family is planning to join me in coming to Ireland for our 2004 Clan Egan Rally, and I am bringing some good friends who are not yet Egans. In addition to family members, friends of Clan members are very welcome to register and attend the Rally. We hope that you will join us and bring your families and friends.

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*Byron F. Egan - President
USA/Canada Clan Egan Association*



Book of Kells

Compiled by Doug Egan

On the first day of the Rally, we will be taking a bus tour around Dublin. One visit will be to Trinity College, where one of the most famous books in the history of the world, the Book of Kells, is permanently on display in the main library.

The Book of Kells was completed in about 800 AD. The vellum (calfskin) manuscript contains transcriptions of the four Gospels, lavishly illustrated and ornamented. It is the most elaborate manuscript of its kind to survive from the early Middle Ages.

The Book of Kells contains 680 pages (or 340 folios). Just two of the pages are without ornament, while about thirty folios, including some major decorated pages, have been lost.

The Book of Kells is one of the masterpieces of Western art and a symbol of Irish nationalism. Where it was produced is controversial. Some scholars suggest Iona, the island monastery founded by St. Columba. It is thought to have been the work of several individual scribes over many years, likely before A.D. 806. At the time the book was produced, Irish monks were renowned throughout the rest of Europe for their work as scribes and illustrators. The manuscript was held at Kells until 1661 when it was moved to Dublin where it remains as the chief treasure of Trinity College Library.

After so many centuries, the Book of Kells is extremely fragile and few people are allowed access. Fine Arts Facsimile Publishers in Switzerland spent 10 years producing a limited edition which is practically

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indistinguishable from the original, duplicating even the worm holes in the pages. This facsimile has received worldwide acclaim.

The manuscript was given to Trinity College in the 17th century and since 1953 has been bound in four volumes. It has been on display in the Old Library since the 19th century. Two volumes can normally be seen, one opened to display a major decorated page, and one to show two pages of script. ❖

Web References:

<http://www.bookofkells.ie/>

<http://www.tcd.ie/Library/Visitors/kells.htm>

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/spcoll/kells.html>



Page from the Book of Kells

Egan Genealogy Research

Doug Egan

Boca Raton, FL

Irish genealogy research is not easy, due to the fact that there are not many records. You have to be creative and use what does exist. Many of the records which were created were destroyed in the Irish Civil War about 1922. Other records, Irish Civil Records (Births, Marriages & Deaths) were not required to be kept until 1864. In the 18th century Catholic Church wasn't even allowed to keep any records, but some actually do exist.

Research into the family history of the MacEgan, Egan, Eagan, Eagen and Keegan lineages can be done on the internet in the usual places: **Ancestry.com**; **Genealogy.com**; the **Irish Genealogy Research Society (IGRS) Library** <http://www.igrsoc.org/>, (where John Egan is now in the key role of Editor of their publication); the **Irish Genealogical Society, Int'l (IGSI)**, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~irish/index.html>; and the **National Archives of Ireland**, nationalarchives.ie/; where you can research Irish cemeteries, church records, passenger lists, and military records, just to name a few sources.

You can also find a wealth of information on our Clan Egan website:

<http://www.clanegan.org/>.

Information of the **Mac Aodhagàin** (mock-ay-gon) history, **ancestral castles**, **Coat of Arms**, the **Keegan Diaries**, and one of the most outstanding medieval Irish manuscripts still extant, the Leabhar Breac—the **Speckled Book of the MacEgans**, can all be found on our Clan Egan website.

Leabhar Breac -- the Speckled Book of the MacEgans. This book was written before 1411 and is now housed at the Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson St, Dublin 2

The Speckled Booklet is a collection of miscellaneous Egan data which was compiled by Liam Egan and Michael JS Egan several years ago, and is made available to those joining the Clan Association. The Speckled Booklet should not be confused with the Speckled *Book*!! The Speckled Booklet is available on the Clan website at

<http://www.clanegan.org/SpeckledBooklet/>.



Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)

Doug Egan

Boca Raton, Florida

Do you have a Revolutionary Patriot in your family tree? Are you a woman over eighteen years of age? --- The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) <http://www.dar.org/> is an organization that honors and preserves the legacy of your Patriot ancestor. Over two hundred years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. As a member of DAR, through participation in the Society's various programs and activities, you can continue this legacy by actively supporting historic preservation, promotion of education, and patriotic endeavors.

Any woman, over eighteen, can become a member that can prove lineal, blood line descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence. She must provide documentation for each statement of birth, marriage, and death. The **Evansville Egans** have such ancestry.

All female descendants from James Egan (1832-1898), who settled in Hawesville Kentucky in 1850, are eligible to join the DAR, and the Clan already has the documentation!! Contact Elizabeth (Eagan) Cox or myself for more details.

The same lineage that would make females eligible to join the DAR would make males eligible to join a similar organization for males: the Sons of the American Revolution. DAR information can be used in preparing a SAR membership application.

You can determine if you have a Patriot ancestor by first researching your lineage and then using the DAR Patriot Inc Lookup Service http://www.dar.org/natsociety/pi_lookup.cfm the website to lookup individuals that provided acceptable service. Your patriot did not necessarily have to fight. He/She could have provided civil or patriotic service, such as doctors, nurses, ministers, and many more.

<http://www.dar.org/natsociety/content.cfm?ID=145&hd=n&FO=Y#s>



Clan Egan DNA Testing

Doug Egan

Boca Raton, Florida

After I heard about the project last year, I thought it was a very good idea. I knew right away I wanted to participate. However, I had some trepidation regarding the process, cost and the whole privacy issue.

The cost of \$99US is not small change, but if you ask for donations from the family, I think it is achievable.

REMEMBER: You only need to conduct the test on one member of your family tree.

There is an *Optional* Release Form to sign, giving permission for Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) to make my DNA information available to other people with a genetic match. According to the guidelines: <http://www.FTDNA.com/legal.html>. After reading these guidelines, I felt very comfortable with that privacy issue. Only Family Tree DNA will have the ability to cross-reference my unique test kit number with the personal information I provided to FTDNA, in order to determine the names and contact information of family match(es).

There are currently 65 members of the Egan Surname Project at the writing of this Newsletter.

<http://members.optushome.com.au/gke/Clan/Research/DNATesting.html>

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Clan Egan's genealogy charts

Continued from previous page.

I submitted my sample to BOTH tests: **Trinity College Dublin** and through the **FamilyTreeDNA** in Texas. <http://www.identigen.com/html2/MainGMOTesting.htm> <http://www.familytreedna.com> -- I received the DNA sample kits in less than one week. After following the very easy directions very carefully, I swabbed the inside of my cheek to extract the samples. I placed the samples in the transportation tubes provided in the kits, and mailed them back out. It was a very easy and painless process.

Approximately 5 weeks later, I received my four page DNA report and a nice Y-DNA certificate from FamilyTreeDNA. The report is a comprehensive description of my actual allele positions for 12 locations, on my Y chromosome DNA. This data can be used to match against any other DNA report. In the future, this DNA test may bring forth individuals living in Ireland, that continue my line of genealogical research, or possibly match a famous person in history.

Byron and I have received confirmation, from FTDNA, that we have a 99.9% likelihood that we have a common ancestor. This confirms research done by Robert "Bud" Egan on James and Michael immigrating around 1850. The descendants of these two Egan brothers have a smaller Clan, known as the **Evansville Egans**.

Byron is a descendant of Michael and I am from James, therefore no other men from the Evansville Egans need to be tested.

Both kits are available from Greg & Sue Egan. They carry release forms addresses etc. I STRONGLY encourage everyone to participate. Sue & Greg Egan may be contacted by email at spe@optushome.com.au or by regular mail at 5 Richardson Road, Croydon 3136, AUSTRALIA. **NOTE:** Michael JS Egan will bring some kits to the Rally for purchase.

More information pertaining the Clan Egan DNA Project can be found at:

<http://members.optushome.com.au/gke/Clan/Research/DNATesting.html>

The main page to the Australian Chapter can be found at:

<http://members.optushome.com.au/gke/Clan/>

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Egan Genealogy Research *Continued From Page 5*

The MacEgans were a family interested in their family history and genealogy from the earliest times. The Speckled Booklet of the Mac Egans holds some of this information. This publication can be used to get some insight into the lives of our Egan ancestors in Ireland.

The **National Archives of Ireland** was established on 1 June 1988. It is an amalgamation of the Public Record Office of Ireland (founded in 1867) and the State Paper Office (founded in 1702). You can start research online at:

<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/govpapers.html>

Or you can travel to Ireland and get a reader's ticket, which is free of charge, and obtained by filling out an application form at the reception desk in the front hall of the National Archives. Readers are requested to bring with them some form of identification to facilitate the ticketing procedure. The plastic credit card-sized tickets carry a photograph and are issued for periods ranging from one day to 3 years. Readers' tickets are not valid in other research institutions.

I recommend buying the **Family Tree Maker** software, available for Windows. It is the best and easiest way to document your Family Tree, and provide a means to share with other members of the Clan and/or friends. **GED files** are the files that this software produces and are interchangeable with other family tree making software. These files can easily be emailed as an attachment.

WARNING: Watch out for any membership fees, etc.

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Officers of USA/Canada Clan Egan Association

The current officers of USA/Canada Clan Egan Association, who were reelected at the Rally and agreed to continue, are:

President:

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COINCIAURBAH MUNEIR
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Chair of Technology Committee:

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Your Clan Chief and your USA/Canada President each have been elected by members of their respective groups for life. Your other officers were elected to serve until the next Rally and until their respective successors are elected and qualified. In the interim between Rallies, vacancies may be filled and new officers and committee members may be appointed by the Clan Chief or USA/Canada President, as the case may be.

PLEASE PASS COPIES OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO AS MANY OTHERS AS YOU CAN.