

THE CODY FAMILY ASSOCIATION
(Descendants of Philip and Martha at Beverly, Mass. 1698)
Ex Guillaume LeCaudey of
Isle of Jersey 1480-1568

Published by Ernest William Cody
Secretary-Treasurer, 187 Forest Hill Ave.
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We are sorry for the long delay in giving you a report of the very fine reunion held at Oberlin, Kansas, on August 22nd and 23rd. Due to the pressure of our every-day life, much of our Cody Family work has gone behind; we hope you will bear with us. Our gathering at Oberlin was an outstanding event, a good attendance, and once again our Local Committee had set up the most perfect arrangements. Briefly, let us tell you something about it.

Saturday, August 22nd

Registration commenced at 1:00 p.m. at St. Johns Lutheran Church under the direction of George M. Cody, Mrs. Nora Cody Holliday, Robin Dee Urban, Pansy Holliday, Mrs. Dora Cody Beers and Mrs. George M. Cody. Total registration for the two days numbered 110 persons, coming from various points in Kansas, Nebraska, North Carolina, Florida, Ontario, Illinois, Oklahoma and Colorado.

General business meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with the President, Hiram S. Cody, presiding. The opening prayer was delivered by Alvin Beers, followed by the introduction of the Local Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Urban, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Cody, Mrs. Nora Cody Holliday and Mrs. Dora Cody Beers. Eldon Cody then extended a warm welcome to Oberlin and Kansas.

The President then introduced the Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody, who took over the direction of routine business matters.

The minutes of the 1958 reunion at Niagara Falls, N. Y., were ratified on motion of Mrs. Hiram S. Cody and Mrs. Muriel Wilcox.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$32.15, annual dues being received for the year \$318.00; report ratified by Eldon Cody and Alvin Beers.

The Secretary's report outlined the work that had been done, the various contacts established, the maintenance of our vital records, and pointed out that the time was fast approaching for a revised edition of our family directory.

At this time, the President reviewed his undertaking in compiling his records of "Cody Family Contacts", and suggested that this work be extended to other branches of the family, having in mind its value in preserving for posterity much of the biographical data of our family.

An "In Memoriam" prayer concerning the many members of the family who have passed on during the year was contributed by Mrs. Ethel Cody Schmidt.

The Secretary reviewed the work of the Chairman of the Historical Board, Miss Lydia S. Cody, and hearty support was asked to her very fine genealogy "The Cody Family in America".

The President presented the report of the Chairman of the Memorial Board, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen, covering the Museum activities and expansion at Cody, Wyoming. We had hoped that Mrs. Allen would be with us for the reunion, but her plans were unfortunately cancelled. To her and her daughter, Helen Cody Allen, we say "thank you" for the valuable services rendered.

It was suggested by Mr. and Mrs. Chester Wilcox that greater attention be given by the Regional Vice-Presidents in establishing and maintaining local interest in our family organization; this matter is being closely followed up. The success of the Winter regional reunions in Florida was cited as an example of what could be done in this respect.

On motion of Chester Wilcox and Mrs. Elva Boal the present Board of Directors was nominated to hold office for another year.

On motion of Bryce E. Cody and George M. Cody it was recommended that the 1960 reunion be held in the state of California (our last reunion there was at Hanford, Calif., in 1938). Suggestions are now invited from families in that state to set the date and place, and set up a Local Committee to handle the arrangements. We would ask that suggestions be forwarded quickly so that definite announcement may be made.

We were most happy to have with us at the reunion, Major and Mrs. William Cody Boal of North Platte, Nebraska. Major Boal is a grandson of our organization's founder, Colonel William Frederick Cody (Buffalo Bill). Their presence with us during the two days added much to the interest and success of the event.

Adjournment took place at 3:45 p.m. and a tour was made of the Decatur County Historical Society Museum. This was much enjoyed and we received a first hand record of those pioneer days of the Old West, so allied with the goings and comings of our family pioneers in this general area.

Saturday - 6:30 p.m. - A very lovely dinner was served us in St. Johns Lutheran Church by the ladies of that church. The Master of Ceremonies was Eldon Cody; the invocation by Pauline Beers. After this delightful dinner we adjourned at 8:00 p.m. to the Legion Hall where the Program Chairman was Mrs. Mavis Cody Urban, and this is where the fun began in earnest, and what a capable Chairman was Mavis; we can't thank her enough. First of all we had the family promenade, followed by the showing of the Buffalo Bill films, property of Hiram S. Cody. Added to the pleasure of seeing these fine films was the fact that Major Boal acted as narrator. Then we had a vocal duet by Leland and Connie Cody, tap number by Robyn Urban and Patsy Holliday, vocal duet by Vickie and Linda Berry, piano solo by Alvin Beers, Jr., and vocal solo by Shari Holliday. Then Chester and Muriel Wilcox showed their films of past Cody Family reunions at Jackson, Mich., London, Ont., Cody, Wyo., Harding, Illinois, Marietta, Ohio, and Niagara Falls, N. Y. Further movies of the Oberlin reunion were taken for the future, and for this too we are deeply grateful to Chester and Muriel Wilcox. Then the dancing started, young and old alike joining in the fun, and how our oldsters put the young fry to shame; this went on to the stroke of midnight, and we broke away, tired, but very happy over the full day of happy family contacts.

Sunday, August 23rd

Some fifty members of our family gathered for divine service at 10:00 a.m. at the Oberlin Federated Church, and enjoyed the splendid message of the Rev. Robert L. Clingan. Here, once again, our family hymn "How Firm a Foundation" was used. As a family with roots as deeply set as ours, we all should derive great inspiration from that grand old hymn.

Back to the Legion Hall for luncheon, another delightful meal, with Eldon Cody as Master of Ceremonies. Competition was held for the Board of Directors' souvenir prizes, 13 in all. Space will not permit listing all the winners, but the prize for the champion Cody Family hell-raiser of Kansas and Nebraska was unanimously awarded to Eldon Cody of Oberlin; we congratulated him on this distinction, and only wish we had more like him in the family circle. A few matters of unfinished business were discussed; we enjoyed the beautiful singing voice of Mrs. Muriel Wilcox, then a couple of hours of friendly visiting before departure on our various ways.

Standing votes of thanks were tendered the Local Committee, and especially to Mrs. Mavis Cody Urban. We also wish to thank all the younger members of the Holliday, Beers, Berry, Richards and Cody families who added much to the success of the reunion. Every member of the Local Committee did a great job, and we are also grateful to them for the many personal courtesies and hospitality extended to many of those present from a distance.

ONCE AGAIN - PLEASE REMEMBER - This is your family - Take a part in it.

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