



Genealogical and Historical Review

OF THE INTERNATIONAL
Cody Family
Association

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September 2003



The 2004 Cody Family Reunion Committee. Bottom row, left to right: Janet Owens, Suzanna Cody, Diane Brewer, Rosemarie Trapp. Top row, left to right: Ron Hills, Lee Norwood, Hal Brewer, Jim Cody.

See you in San Diego, October 2004

Annual Reunion being planned by committee

The 2004 Cody Family Reunion Committee has been actively involved in planning the next reunion. It will take place on Thursday, October 7, Friday, October 8, Saturday, October 9, and Sunday, October 10, 2004 in Old Town, San Diego, CA. This is the Columbus Day holiday weekend. Accommodations are available for you to arrive earlier and/or depart later than the above dates.

You'll find complete details of the Reunion on a special tear-out page in this issue that should be helpful in planning your participation.

Your reunion committee members have expended tremendous effort in planning your reunion. The members pictured above met in

San Diego, CA on June 18th and 19th to identify locations and hotels and to set an itinerary. Current members of the committee are: Janet Owens, Suzanna Cody, Diane Brewer, Hal Brewer, Rosemarie Trapp, Ron Hills, Lee Norwood, Jim Cody, Sandy and Bob Clemenhagen with their daughters, Diane and Barbara, Carolee Gill and Kit and Linda Cody. Terry Cody, Hi Cody, Gerald Cody and others have offered tremendous support, encouragement and wisdom to the committee.

If you would like to join the Reunion Committee, we want to include you in any capacity your gifts and talents may offer. We would like to recruit as many volunteers as possible to help make this a wonderful reunion. Please call or e-mail Suzanna Cody at 408.867.4440 or iamone@earthlink.net for further details.

BBHC people, programs change

Dr. Robert E. Shimp is the new Executive Director of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming.

Dr. Shimp came to Cody after serving as president of McMurry University in Abilene, Texas. He also was associated with several other institutions of higher education in Ohio and Kentucky. He joined the staff in April of last year just before the opening of the Draper Museum of Natural History, a major new addition to BBHC, in June.

Also new to the Buffalo Bill Museum staff is Dr. Judi Winchester, who began work in April as the Ernest J. Goppert Curator of Western American History, Buffalo Bill Museum. Dr. Winchester came to Cody from university positions in Arizona. She may be in attendance at the 2004 Reunion. Dr. Winchester fills the position vacated by Paul Fees, a long-time friend of the family. You can learn more about Drs. Shimp and Winchester, other members of the staff and activities of the Buffalo Historical Center by visiting their web site at www.bbhc.org

In other BBHC news:

- The Center is now offering western items, including some related to Buffalo Bill, through an Internet web site. The address for that online store is <http://www.bbhcstore.com>.
- Elementary students from around the Big Horn Basin participated in a two-day celebration of Buffalo Bill's birthday at the Center in February.
- The newest museum at the BBHC, the Draper Museum of Natural History, was dedicated in June of last year. A featured guest at the opening ceremony was actor Clint Eastwood.



Dr. Robert E. Shimp



Dr. Judi Winchester

From the Director

I believe that you will find this to be a very interesting issue of the *Review*. One of the first things that I am sure you noticed is that we have expanded to a six-page format, allowing more content and providing you with a page of information about the 2004 reunion in San Diego. This is a step toward returning to the eight-page format that we had several years ago. This is made possible by your generous support of the International Cody Family Association. Thank you!

We have a very efficient and hard-working committee planning the 2004 reunion. Here we are about one year before it happens and they have provided you with all the information that you need to plan to attend. More details will be coming in the next *Review* – but do not wait – put it on your calendar now. We hope to see all of you in San Diego.

We have made some changes to the back page so that when you send in your dues, you

can easily send in the address label attached to the dues form. The address label contains your Cody ID# which will assure that your payment gets credited properly. When sending in family updates, just send the whole page.

Richard Grosenbaugh, your hard-working editor, really wants to include more stories and articles about family activities in the *Review*. And you tell us that you enjoy reading about your Cody cousins. Well, folks, the only way we find out about the interesting things that are going on in your family group is when YOU tell us. So pass on your stories to us and thence to your Cody cousins through the *Review*. Remember, if they interest you, they interest us.

Finally, we are committed to having a Cody family web site by the end of this year. Watch for it. The URL will be www.cody-family.org.

Question, questions: I get lots of questions

From my Buffalo Bill web site (www.richgros.com/Cody/index.html) I continually receive requests for information on Buffalo Bill and/or his Wild West. Here are a few:

QUESTION: While researching my home town of Rawalpindi, I was surprised to hear from someone that Buffalo Bill had traveled through there while in India in 1913 or so. Can you shed any light on this? – *Ali Khan*

ANSWER: From leafing through all the books on the Wild West that I have I was unable to find any mention of the show's appearance in India. In fact, in 1913 Cody had already lost his original show and was touring with Sells-Floto Circus and Buffalo Bill's Wild West.

QUESTION: I am currently expanding my *Five Centuries of Italian American History*. Is it possible that William F. Cody's mother was of Italian background? His wife, Louisa Frederici — his rifle, Lucretia Borgia — the settlement called "Rome". Do you have any information on the background of Cody's mother? I have also seen Cody's name spelled "Codi" – *Richard A. Capozzoia*

ANSWER: The family name has been spelled many ways. According to Don Russell they included Legody, Lagody, McCody, Mocody, Micody, Codie, Gody, Coady and Cody. According to Russell, in *The Lives and Legends of Buffalo Bill*, William's mother, Mary Ann Bonsell Laycock Cody, was descended from Josiah Bunting who came from Derbyshire, England.

QUESTION: I saw an article, not authenticated, that said that Bill Cody was a Swedish-Finn. Have you found anything

about such?? If that is true, he might be one of my family connections. – *Elmer V Koski*

ANSWER: There seems to be some dispute about the actual background of Philip Cody, the head of the U.S. Cody clan. It is generally accepted, though, that he came to America from the island of Jersey and, even though the name appears to be French, that he was English. That's according to the book "Five Generations: The Cody Family in America." As far as I know there has been nothing written that would indicate that he was of Scandinavian lineage.

QUESTION: I am interested in Bill's physical stature..height, weight..etc... I can't seem to locate this info online. Thanks for any assistance. – *Bill Rickard*

ANSWER: Cody's appearance is mentioned several times in *The Lives and Legends of Buffalo Bill* by Don Russell. He quotes General H. E. Davies as saying, when he first met Buffalo Bill: "Tall and somewhat slight in figure, though possessed of great strength and iron endurance; straight and erect as an arrow, and with strikingly handsome features, he at once attracted to him all with whom he became acquainted and the better knowledge gained of him during the days he spent with our party increased the good impression he made upon his introduction."

Russell also quotes a reporter from the Philadelphia Public Record who, on interviewing Cody, said: "He is thirty years old [it was his twenty-sixth birthday], rather slim and wiry, and over six feet height. He wears a mustache and goatee, and allows the hair of his head to hang in ringlets over his shoulders."

Contacting the International Cody Family Association

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Email: codyte@cinti.net

Use the address above to write to us, update your genealogy, or pay your dues.

Your officers may be contacted by writing to the address above or you can contact them in person at the phone number or email addresses below:

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The other Cody hotel in Sheridan, Wyoming

William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody is fondly remembered at the Sheridan Inn in Sheridan, Wyoming. His presence is felt throughout the hotel which was opened in June of 1893.

The hotel was built by the Burlington & Missouri Railroad and the Sheridan Land Company at a cost of \$25,000 to service the new railroad across the street. Furnishings for the hotel were provided by Cody. All that remain of those fixtures today are the huge welcome desk in the lobby and the beautiful bar reminiscent of the times.

From 1894 to 1902 the Inn was also known as the W. F. Cody Hotel company, of which he was part owner. It is reported that

when Cody was in town he would sit on the porch and audition acts for his Wild West show. It was in Sheridan that he filed his unsuccessful divorce petition.

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964, the Inn went out of business in 1965. In 1967, a local resident purchased the building to save it from being razed. In 1990 the Inn was purchased by a nonprofit organization which is working diligently to return it to its original condition and, hopefully, once again accept overnight guests. A Buffalo Bill Days celebration is held each June with proceeds helping in the restoration work.

Wild West poster restoration progresses

Work continues at Jamestown, New York, on the massive restoration project for a Buffalo Bill Combination poster discovered on the wall of a theater there.

In commemoration of the 125th anniversary of the performance advertised in the poster, an exhibit of the project was installed in the Reg Lenna Civic Center (which was then the Allen Opera House and site of the show.) That exhibit details the restoration project and gives a good overview of what the poster will look like once it is finished and installed permanently in the Civic Center.

The restoration project, like putting together a giant jigsaw puzzle, is very time consuming. It is estimated to cost \$300 to restore each 500 square inches of the large poster. To complete the project the arts council has applied for a grant from Save America's Treasures (SAT) a federal program. Private donations are also being

received in Jamestown for the restoration work including those from some Cody family members. Tax deductible donations can be sent to: Buffalo Bill Project, Civic Center Development Corporation, 116 E. Third St., Jamestown, NY 14701. Information about the project is available on the Internet at <http://www.reglenna.com/buffalobill.html>.

Family members are encouraged to write to Save America's Treasures in support of funding of this very worthwhile effort to save an important piece of our nation's and our family's heritage. Address your letters to: America's Treasures, Heritage Preservation Services, National Park Service, 1201 I (Eye) St. NW, 64(ORG-2255), Washington DC 20005. Specify that you are writing in support of the "Buffalo Bill 1878 Billboard, Reg Lenna Civic Center, Jamestown New York" in your letter.

Deaths

Robert A. Cody (172/2871) of rural Sheridan, Illinois, died in August of last year in Peoria at the age of 74. He was born March 27, 1928 in Ottawa, Illinois, to Maynard and Lyda Cody. Robert was a Korean War veteran and a collector with various interests including western history and Buffalo Bill. The farm he owned was purchased by his great grandfather, Samuel Cody, when he came to Illinois from New York. His family had been active in Cody family activities in the state. He is survived by two nieces and their families.

William E. Cody (266/4331) died July 25 in Bakersfield, California, after a long illness. He was born July 17, 1927, in Long Beach to John and Bessie Cody. Bill worked for Superior Oil Company for many years retiring in 1988 as Production Supervisor for the East Texas Fields. He is survived by his children, Steven Cody (266/43311) and wife, Mary of Bakersfield, Barbara Pratt (266/43312) and husband Brian of Newport Beach, Gregory Cody (266/43313) of Ventura; their mother, Valerie Cody; grandchildren and great-grandchildren and his brother James Cody (266/4332) of LaQuinta.

People News

Lee Norwood became a great grandfather in April. Great grandson Keith Wayne Norwood was born on April 4 in Springfield, Missouri, to grandson Paul Scott and his wife Charity.

Grayce Cody, mother of Gerald and Terry Cody is now in an assisted living facility in Canton, OH. The address is The Landings of Canton, 4550 Hills and Dales Rd. NW, Canton, Ohio, 44708.

Circle News

The Ohio Cody Family Reunion was held at Sharon Woods Park in Westerville north of Columbus on September 14, 2003. Coffee and donuts were provided at 10:00 a.m. for early arrivals with a covered dish lunch at 1:00 p.m. A business meeting followed. The annual auction to raise funds followed the business meeting. A more detailed look at the Ohio Cody Family Reunion will be published in the next issue of the *Review*.

Information about the activities in all circles is welcome and solicited for this publication.

Discover San Diego the Cody Way: 2004 Reunion, October 7-10

The following information offers guidance in planning your vacation/reunion time. We encourage you to bring family and friends including your youngest family members so they may grow up knowing their cousins. We hope that all of our families may experience a deeper, richer bond of relationship through these reunions. So come to fabulous San Diego to enjoy the sights, sunshine and seaside with your Cody Cuzzins!!



Since most activities will be held in Old Town or nearby, rental cars are not necessary from hotels. From other venues, they may be necessary.

KOA RV Campground - near Chula Vista 1-800-762-KAMP

Costs run around \$24 - \$32 - Call to learn about your particular rig.

Hal Brewer will provide further details. Hal and Diane Brewer's son and daughter-in-law will act as hosts and hospitality coordinators at the campground.

REUNION ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2004

3:30 PM-6:30 PM

Registration and Reception. Courtyard Marriott.

5:00 PM

Special Guest Speaker from San Diego Historical Society (**Diane Brewer**)

Baseball Hats and Tee Shirts will be sold at the reception and throughout the reunion. Costs: \$8-12 per item. We are fortunate to designate **Diane Brewer** who has been in the clothing business for years and who has impeccable taste to create these items.

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

No Host Dinner. Mexican Restaurant - walking distance from hotels.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2004

9:00 AM

City Trolley Tour: \$20.00 per person
All day tour taking trolley from one venue to another. The Trolley allows you to get on and off at ideal San Diego locations. You may meet with others at designated areas or approximate times for lunch or breaks. You may also arrive and depart from tour at your leisure and convenience.

7:00 PM

Dinner - Courtyard Marriott, Santa Barbara Ballroom: \$20.00 per person: Children, \$8.00

There are many fabulous restaurants in Old Town and all over San Diego. This dinner is planned for those who would prefer to return to their hotels and have a quiet dinner with family members.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2004

8:30 AM

Bus departs Marriott for Wild Animal Park - Approximately 45 minutes.

Bus is for those who do not wish to rent cars or drive during reunion period. Cost: \$5-7 per person.

9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Wild Animal Park: \$26.00 adult/senior/child/student. Return Marriott 2:00 PM

6:30 PM

Depart Old Town Trolley: \$2.00

7:00 PM

Dinner Harbor Cruise: \$50.00 per person - Entertainment: Buffalo Bill and John Wayne Impersonators

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2004

11:00 AM

Church Service - Heritage Park - Rev. Carolee Gill performs non-denominational service for those who would like to attend. Heritage Park is about a 7-minute walk from hotels. It is a charming Victorian village with several shops. Rest rooms nearby. Very private, clean and hospitable.

11:30 AM

Picnic - Heritage Park: \$20.00 - BBQ Catered by **Rosemarie Trapp** with help from **Janet Owens** and **Jim Cody**.

continued on reverse side



ACCOMMODATIONS

REUNION HEADQUARTERS HOTELS

(When making reservations at the headquarters hotels and the campground, mention that you are with the Cody Family Reunion.)

Courtyard by Marriott

Room rates: \$114 - \$124 plus tax

Old Town San Diego

2435 Jefferson St.

San Diego, CA 9210

Tel. (619) 260-8500 or (800) 255-3544

Fax. (619) 298-2427

Web. www.courtyard.com/sanot

Contact Person: Helna Campugan

- Check-in 3:00 PM - Check-out 12:00 noon
- Shuttle service to and from airport.
- Children under 18 stay free.
- Cots, fridges, microwaves available upon request.

Western Inn

Room rates: \$88 - \$109 plus tax

33889 Arista St.

San Diego, CA 92110

Tel. (619) 298-6888

Fax. (619) 692-4497

Reservations: (888) 475-2353

E-mail: Westerninn3889@aol.com

No web-site.

- Check-in 3:00 PM - Check-out 12:00 noon - no airport shuttle.
- Contact Person: Reddy
- All reservations must be made by September 1, 2004 to receive discount.

- Ask for International Cody Family Reunion Reservations for special rates.
- You may also consider going on the net to check out better rates.
- Also note that both of our headquarters hotels are located within 100 paces of one another.

MORE REUNION ACTIVITIES

1:30 PM

Business Meeting for all who would like to attend.

Speakers:

Kit Cody, President of ICFA – Opening Remarks.

Linda Cody Secretary of ICFA – Secretary's Report

Ron Hills and Terry Cody Budget and Treasurers Report

Possibly Juti Winchester, Curator of BBHC, will discuss relationship between Family and Buffalo Bill Historical Center.

3:00 PM

Reunion officially closes.

If you plan to stay through Monday, October 11, there are many activities for you to enjoy including the Downtown parade, San Diego Zoo, Sea World and a multitude of other attractions.

We hope you will make your reservations early to find the most cost effective means of travel. Check Orbitz, Travelocity and other discounted reservations systems for the best prices.

The next edition of the *Review* will be published Spring 2004 where you will find more detailed descriptions of places and events. In the meantime you can call Suzanna Cody for more information via email at iamone@earthlink.net or by phone at 408.867.4440.

We are joyfully anticipating our time together to **Discover San Diego the Cody Way** in October 2004.

California's second largest city and the United States' seventh largest, San Diego boasts a citywide population of nearly 1.3 million residents with more than 2.8 million residents countywide.

Known for its near-idyllic climate, 70 miles of pristine beaches and dazzling array of world-class family attractions, including the World-Famous San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, SeaWorld San Diego and LEGOLAND California, San Diego offers a wide variety of things to see and do, appealing to guests from around the world.

Balboa Park, the largest urban cultural park in the U.S., features 15 museums, numerous art galleries, beautiful gardens, the

This is San Diego



Tony Award-winning The Globe Theatres and the Zoo.

The most difficult decision to make regarding a vacation to San Diego is determining what to do and see among the region's vast and diverse variety of offerings.

Isaac Cody influential in building Kansas

"Five Generations: The Cody Family in North America" gives us much information about Isaac Cody, William F. Cody's father, who was born in 1811 in Canada. It summarizes the Cody family movements from Iowa into Kansas and Isaac's proactive Free State activities.

Other interesting information about Isaac, not contained in "Five Generations", can be found on the Internet.

An article from the Kansas Heritage Collection at the University of Kansas listing hotels, taverns and stage stations in Kansas relates:

Cody Tavern 1854, Salt Creek valley west of Ft. Leav. on Ft. Leav. & Ft. Riley/Ft. Laramie Military Road. Isaac Cody, Prop. Cody, father of Buffalo Bill" was a free-stater in a pro-slavery milieu. A well and the stone foundation of Cody's cabin remains. (Seneca Courier-Tribune, Dec. 15, 1938 & WPA Kansas p. 494)

An article "Forgotten Pennsylvania Gun Makes a Wild West Connection" by Robert Kyle in the *Maine Antique Digest* discusses the story of a man named William Breckenridge who moved from Pennsylvania to Iowa and hired Isaac Cody to build a house for him and manage a large farm. An interesting passage states:

While researching the Breckenridge saga, Jim Harris came across some compelling speculation that the baby boy christened William F. Cody, born February 26, 1846, was named after William F. Breckenridge. The birth occurred during the time Col. Breckenridge first visited the area and befriended Isaac Cody. Also, Breckenridge was referred to as William. Growing up, young Cody was called Willie. The middle names are different, but Harris said perhaps

the parents preferred Frederick over Findley, or they simply did not know Breckenridge's middle name.

The likelihood that Cody was named after Breckenridge is also discussed as a real possibility in *The Lives and Legends of Buffalo Bill* [by Don Russell]

An item from the historical collection of the Leavenworth Historical Society tells about Isaac's burial:

It was in Mount Aurora that Isaac Cody's body was buried and his son, who became famous by the name of Buffalo Bill, made two visits here in later years seeking his father's remains, but was not successful. Only iron caskets were used in those days and the son hoped to find the one that contained the body of the father.

One of the significant dates listed in Kansas history in an article by Stephen Chinn of the Computer Center of Vanderbilt University relates to Isaac:

1855—The Valley Falls Mill was built by **Isaac Cody** (father of Bill Cody).

From the web site of the City of Valley Falls, Kansas:

Valley Falls history began in February of 1854 when Henry Zen located near the falls of the Grasshopper River. The first permanent settlement was staked out on Christmas Day of 1854 by James Frazier, Robert Riddle, Hozea B. Jolley, and Andrew J. Whitney. In the spring of 1855, a survey made by Isaac Cody, father of "Buffalo Bill" laid out the town of Grasshopper Falls. One hundred maps of the town were lithographed and sent east to advertise the town.

Other items tell about Isaac's free state fight, his help in developing a new community, Grasshopper Falls, and his his participation in the Topeka Legislature,

Book Review

Among the most recent books to review the life and times of William Frederick Cody is one entitled *Buffalo Bill and Sitting Bull* by Bobby Bridger (University of Texas Press, 2002). This book doesn't provide any important new information about the Great Scout but does piece together bits and pieces from other authors to weave a good story as much about the development of the West as about the man himself. It sets the stage for the meeting of Buffalo Bill and Sitting Bull and explores their brief show business connection. Bridger provides good detail about the confrontations between white people and Indians in the struggle to colonize the West.

USE THIS FORM TO SEND US YOUR FAMILY UPDATE INFORMATION

Cody Identification Number (if known) _____ / _____ Birthplace _____ Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____
 Cody Descendant Name _____
 Spouse Name _____
 Mail Address _____ E-mail address _____
 Marriage Place _____ Marriage Date(mm/dd/yyyy) _____

CHILDREN IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER (Do not include stillborn, but include those not surviving infancy) Adoption status: 0, not adopted; 1, adopted & not a descendant; 2, descendant adopted by successor spouse; 3, descendant adopted by 3rd party; 4, descendant adopted by descendant relative.

1. Name _____ Adopted? _____ Birthplace & Date _____ Marriage Date _____
 Spouse Name _____ Birthplace & Date _____ Marriage Place _____
(Include maiden name, if female)
 Address(if other than above) _____

2. Name _____ Adopted? _____ Birthplace & Date _____ Marriage Date _____
 Spouse Name _____ Birthplace & Date _____ Marriage Place _____
(Include maiden name, if female)
 Address(if other than above) _____

3. Name _____ Adopted? _____ Birthplace & Date _____ Marriage Date _____
 Spouse Name _____ Birthplace & Date _____ Marriage Place _____
(Include maiden name, if female)
 Address(if other than above) _____

To List additional children or grandchildren, use additional sheets

LIST DETAILS OF FAMILY DEATHS (Include name, Cody ID, Date & Place of Birth, Date of Death, Location of final resting place)

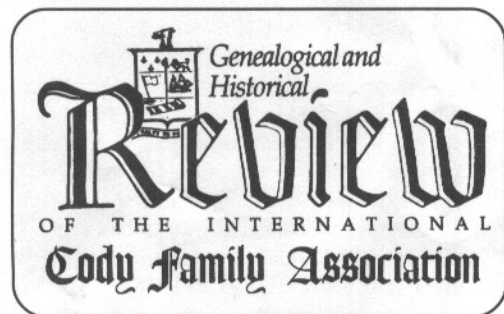
You may provide **Biographical Data** for the above: up to 200 words on a separate sheet. Include civic, educational and occupational achievements.

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