

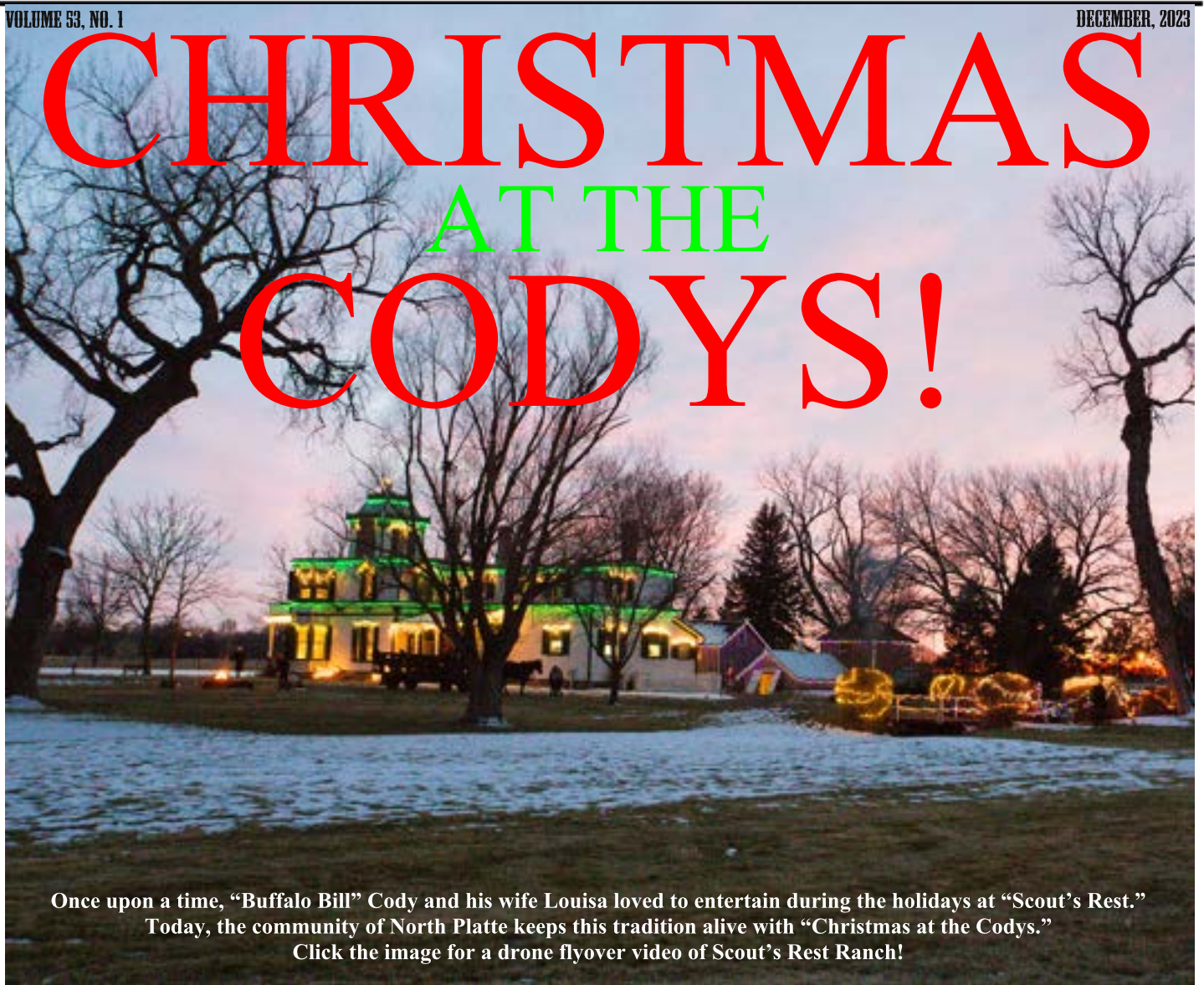


Genealogical and Historical OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
**Review** Cody Family  
Association

VOLUME 53, NO. 1

DECEMBER, 2023

# CHRISTMAS AT THE CODYS!



Once upon a time, “Buffalo Bill” Cody and his wife Louisa loved to entertain during the holidays at “Scout’s Rest.”  
Today, the community of North Platte keeps this tradition alive with “Christmas at the Codys.”  
Click the image for a drone flyover video of Scout’s Rest Ranch!

“Christmas at the Codys” at the Buffalo Bill Ranch State Historical Park in North Platte has been going on for decades. The theme changes each year, but this time the 20-odd non-profit organizations that decorate the rooms in the mansion agreed on the theme of an “Old-Time Christmas.”

These [non-profits](#) usually take two to three days to decorate, depending on their ambitions. The staff assigns each non-profit their own place the year before so they literally have a year to plan. They are proud to exhibit their work to the public and to compete for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place.

Everywhere there is [something to see](#), every nook and cranny has been decorated. Other non-profits do the barn, each one gets a stall to decorate. Kiddies come there to visit Santa!

All the money raised from this event is distributed to the participating non-profits. But it’s not just the house that is ready for visitors, all of Scout’s Rest is prepared for people to wander and enjoy.

The Ranch’s staff takes nearly two months to really get ready for this event. Checking the outside lightning to ensure those thousands of lights are all working is a big job all by itself, never mind roasting the chestnuts, warming the apple cider, baking the cookies and scheduling the horse-drawn hayrides.

Yes, [Scout’s Rest is full of holiday cheer](#) at this time of year! Instead of being cold and dark in the off-season, the residents of North Platte fill the old house with joy and light. We hope the Christmas Spirit inspires you and your family too!

# 2024 North Platte Reunion Itinerary

Thanks to our Vice President, Kevin Cody, and [Amanda Connick](#) for their good work in organizing this itinerary. Arrive early for the [NEBRASKAland DAYS Buffalo Bill Golf Classic!](#)

You'll find a wide variety of fun-filled activities here for you and your entire family to enjoy. Use our website, [www.cody-family.org](http://www.cody-family.org) to make your party's reservations now!

## Thursday, June 13

6:30 - 9:30am Free Breakfast for Ramada Guests  
 8:30am - 12pm Reunion Registration, get your Gift Bag!  
 12 - 1pm Lunch On Your Own  
 1 - 1:30pm Motorcade to the [Grain Bin Antique Town](#)  
 1:30 - 3pm [Stroll their Boardwalk](#) and Shop!  
 3 - 3:30pm Motorcade to the [Union Pacific's Bailey Yard](#)  
 3:30 - 3:45pm Meetup in the [Golden Spike Tower Lobby](#)  
 3:45 - 5:45pm [Golden Spike Tower Private Tour!](#)  
 5:45 - 6pm Motorcade to [Another Round Grill](#) for a  
 6 - 7:15pm Pulled Pork & Chicken Buffet w/ Soup, Salad, Baked Beans, Texas Toast, Chips, & Drink  
 7:15 - 8pm Motorcade to the [Wild West Arena](#)  
 8 - 10pm [NEBRASKAland DAYS Buffalo Bill Rodeo!](#)

## Friday, June 14

6:30 - 9:30am Free Breakfast for Ramada Guests  
 9:45 - 10am Motorcade to [Dusty Trails](#)  
 10am - 12pm [Dusty Trails Horseback Ride!](#)  
 12 - 1pm [Pop Corner Catered Lunch](#) at Dusty Trails w/ Assorted Sandwiches, Chips, Veggies & Dip, Salad, Veggie Pasta, Beverage & Dessert  
 1 - 3pm [Dusty Trails North Platte River Float!](#)  
 3 - 4:30pm Return to your hotel to rest & change clothes  
 4:30 - 4:45pm Motorcade to the [Lincoln County Historical Museum & Western Heritage Village](#)  
 4:45 - 5pm [Meet "Buffalo Bill" & See the Shootout Skit!](#)  
 5 - 7pm Browse the Lincoln County Historical Museum & their [Western Heritage Village!](#)  
 6 - 6:30pm Group A - Cowboy Cookout of Beef Stew, Veggies, Cornbread, Cobbler, & Beverage  
 6:30 - 7pm Group B - Cowboy Cookout  
 7 - 7:15pm Group A - Ride With the Wild Bunch Hayride & Storytelling with "Buffalo Bill"  
 7 - 7:15pm Group B - Ride With the Wild Bunch Hayride  
 7:15 - 8:30pm ["Buffalo Bill's" Tour of Scout's Rest Ranch!](#)  
 8:30 - 8:45pm Group A - Hayride back to Dusty Trails  
 8:30 - 8:45pm Group B - Hayride back to Dusty Trails & Storytelling with "Buffalo Bill"  
 8:45 - 9pm Motorcade back to the Ramada  
 9 - 10pm Relax & enjoy the Amenities: Pool, Hot Tub, Spa, Gym, Arcade, Lounge, Gift Shop & Newstand w/ Free Coffee, Tea, and Internet!

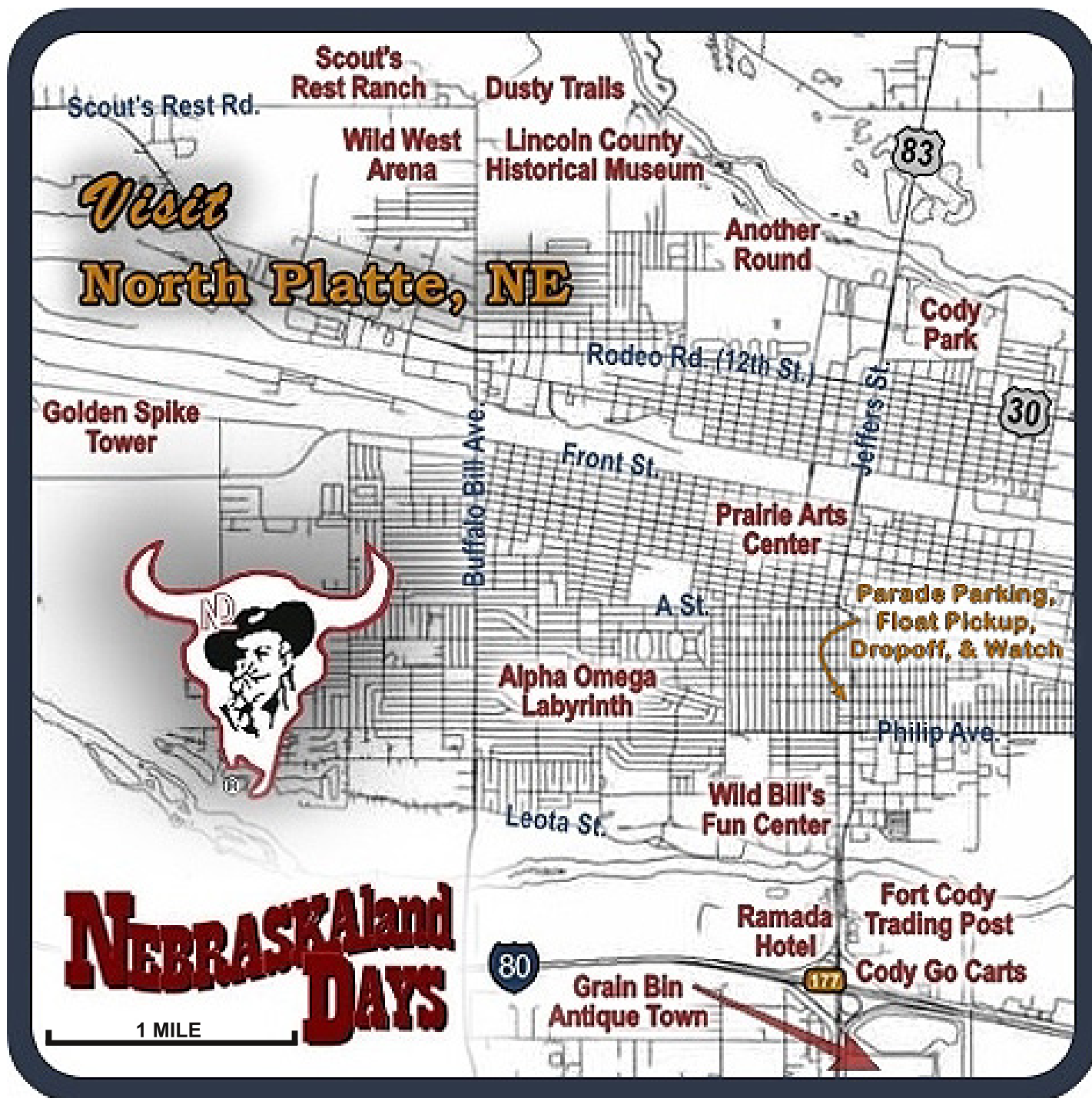
## Saturday, June 15

6:30 - 9:30am Free Breakfast for Ramada Guests  
 9:30 - 9:45am Motorcade to [Fort Cody Trading Post](#)  
 9:45 - 11am See [Buffalo Bill's Wild West in Miniature!](#)  
 This narrated diorama contains over 20,000 hand-carved pieces...many animated! Also, Tour [Fort Cody's Old West Exhibits](#) or [Shop for Souvenirs!](#)  
 11 - 11:45am Quick Lunch On Your Own  
 11:45am - 12pm Park at the Western Nebraska Bank lot & Meetup with the ICFA's Parade Float  
 12 - 1pm Ride Our Parade Float to the Parade Lineup  
 1 - 1:45pm [March with our Banner or Ride our Float!](#)  
 1:45 - 3pm ICFA Float Dropoff to View the Parade!  
 3 - 3:30pm Motorcade to the [Prairie Arts Center](#)  
 3:30 - 3:45pm Buffalo Bill Art Show in their Main Gallery  
 3:45 - 4:15pm Prairie Arts Center Private Tour!  
 4:15 - 5pm [Browse the Prairie Arts Center's Exhibits](#)  
 5 - 6pm [Steve Friesen's Presentation of his book, "Galloping Gourmet: Eating & Drinking with Buffalo Bill"](#) in their Marble Hall!  
 6 - 10pm Your choice of; Dinner On Your Own, Gaming at [Wild Bill's Fun Center](#), Racing at [Cody Go Karts](#), or Exploring the [Alpha Omega Labryinth](#)

## Sunday, June 16

6:30 - 9:30am Free Breakfast for Ramada Guests  
 9:30 - 9:45am Motorcade to [Cody Park](#)  
 9:45 - 10:45am Sunday Services at the Cody Park Shelter conducted by our Chaplain, Mark June!  
 10:45 - 11am Walk to North Platte's [Buffalo Bill Memorial Statue](#) for a Family Portrait!  
 11am - 12:15pm Inspect the Pufferbellies at the [Cody Park Railroad Museum!](#)  
 12:15 - 1:45pm Picnic Lunch at the Cody Park Shelter with [Prokops' Smokin' BBQ Food Truck](#)  
 1:45 - 2:45pm ICFA General Business Meeting & Election of Officers for the 2024-2026 Term  
 2:45 - 4pm Relax at the [Cody Park](#) with Your Kinfolk, Play Horseshoes, Frisbee-Golf, Tennis, Swim, [Camp](#), enjoy their Playground & [Carnival Rides](#), or [Tour their Wildlife Zoo!](#)

# 2024 North Platte Reunion, Points of Interest



Our Headquarters Hotel is the [Ramada by Windham](#),  
2102 South Jeffers Street

[Grain Bin Antique Town](#), 10641 S Old Highway 83  
[Golden Spike Tower & Visitor Center](#), 1249 North  
Homestead Road

[Another Round Grille](#), 1008 West 18th Street  
[Wild West Arena](#), 2400 North Buffalo Bill Avenue  
[Dusty Trails](#), 2717 North Buffalo Bill Avenue  
[Lincoln County Historical Museum](#), 2403 North  
Buffalo Bill Avenue

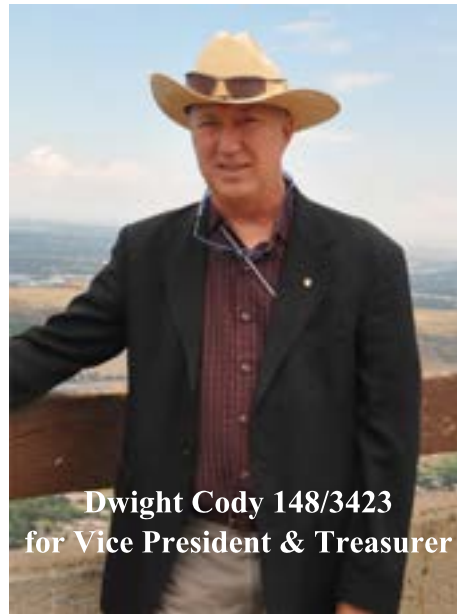
[Scout's Rest Ranch](#) at Buffalo Bill State Historical  
Park, 2921 Scouts Rest Ranch Road

[Fort Cody Trading Post](#), 221 Halligan Drive  
[Western Nebraska Bank](#), 600 South Dewey Street  
[Prairie Arts Center](#), 416 North Jeffers Street  
[Wild Bill's Fun Center](#), 1100 South Jeffers Street  
[Cody Go Karts](#), 805 Halligan Drive  
[Alpha Omega Labyrinth](#), 1600 West E Street  
[Cody Park](#), 1402 North Jeffers Street

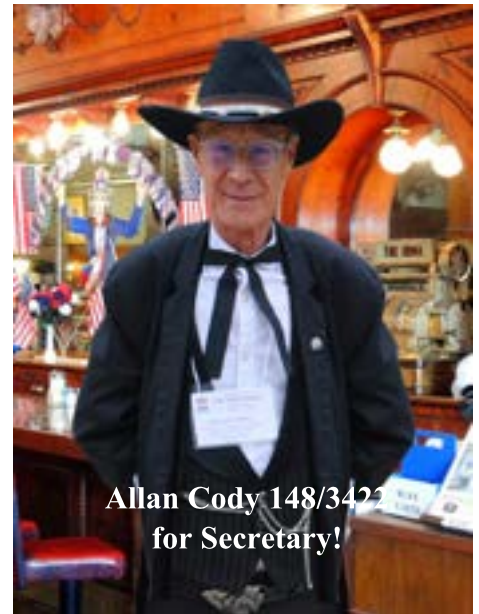
# Our 2024 ICFA Election Nominees!



**Kevin Cody 145/44332  
for President!**



**Dwight Cody 148/3423  
for Vice President & Treasurer**



**Allan Cody 148/3422  
for Secretary!**

Yes, it's that time again, the time has come to elect corporate Officers to direct and guide our International Cody Family Association for the next two years!

The ICFA Nominating Committee has approved a slate of nominees for the membership's approval at our General Business Meeting, to be held at our June 2024 ICFA Reunion in North Platte. These candidates are familiar to many of our membership, personalities that have worked together for 7 years, produced 3 Reunions, along with the biannual Review newsletter, updated our genealogy at the request of our membership, maintained our website, protected our ICFA brand, solicited donations, collected annual dues, recognized our generous Donors and Dues-paying Active Members and saluted milestones in the life of our membership.

These nominees are proven contributors, salwars who have survived the test of time and come back for more!

First, let's review our ICFA corporate Bylaws, Article III, "Boards and Committees."

Section 1 names the ICFA's Officers as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, elected by the adult membership who attend our biennial General Business Meeting, held during our ICFA Reunions. It charges them to direct and manage affairs for the benefit of the ICFA, and to appoint Directors to assist them.

Section 2 describes the Executive Board, composed of the elected Officers and their Appointed Directors. Over the last 15 years, the Executive Board has met monthly, except for an annual Christmas break in December. They also schedule and set the agenda for the General Business Meeting, as well as appointing the Nominating Committee to vet and endorse candidates for Office.

Section 3 is about the Advisory Board, composed of Past Officers of the ICFA, with nothing about nominees or elections.

Section 4 describes the duties of the Executive Board, authorizes Committees and says that **one person may hold more than one Office.**

Section 5 states that Officers and Directors must be qualified as being **over 21, and must have attended at least one of the past two General Business Meetings. The Offices of President and Vice President can only be occupied by a Cody Family Descendant.**

Section 6 says that candidates for Office are elected by **majority vote of the adult membership at the biennial General Business Meeting. These candidates have been identified and vetted by a Nominating Committee composed of at least 3 members appointed by the outgoing Executive Board and announced to the membership at least 30 days prior to the election.** It also allows "Floor Nominations" made at the General Business Meeting, subject to qualifications.

Section 7 sets the term of office as **effective at the close of the General Business Meeting and limits their term to 6 consecutive years.** The Covid pandemic postponed our 2021 Reunion and General Business Meeting by a year. For the 2024 election, these candidates, who have all served a minimum of 7 consecutive years, **the current Executive Board seeks a waiver which requires a 3/4 vote of the attending membership at that General Business Meeting.** The current Executive Board relies on you, the membership, to grant that waiver so the election can proceed.

Sections 8-16 are about Appointed Directors, Training, Policy and Procedure, Removal from Office, Vacancy, Resignation, Compensation, Confidentiality and Insurance, not elections or candidates. You can read the ICFA's Bylaws for yourself by clicking [here](#).

There you have it, we have 3 well-qualified candidates, who only need your vote to continue serving the ICFA!

# Own a Piece of Scout's Rest!

Once upon a time, when hope seemed dim, Bryce Eakins Cody 271/463 and the Lincoln County Historical Society preserved Scout's Rest Ranch by selling 6" by 6" squares of the estate as souvenirs. Our Florida Regional Director, Peter Plautz 206/72221, has one of these deeds, inherited from his mother, Loretta Elizabeth Cody Westphal. For our 2024 Reunion in North Platte, NE, we present it for your inspection.

Deeds are important legal documents that convey property rights from entity to another. When a buyer purchases a piece of property, the written document that affirms the entire transfer process of transfer from the seller to the buyer is a deed. To assure the buyer that the property's title is free and clear of all past and future encumbrances, the seller uses a Warranty Deed. Here, the seller retains all mineral rights!

## Warranty Deed

TO A SECTION OF THE ORIGINAL Wm. F. CODY "Buffalo Bill" RANCH

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: This indenture made this 12 day of August in the year of our Lord, 1977, and the Independence of the United States 1977, between the Lincoln County Historical Society, hereinafter called the Society, Party of the one part, and Loretta Westphal, hereinafter called the purchaser, of the other part. The Society, in consideration of the sum of \$2.00 (dollars) paid to the Society by the purchasers named herein, doth hereby grant, sell and convey unto said purchaser, his heirs and assigns forever, a parcel of land designated as Section 8335 in the numbering of the sections on the plat plan recorded with the Register of Deeds for the County of Lincoln, State of Nebraska, in Book 210 at page 292, and being contained in that certain property once belonging to William F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill", described as follows: Being a section of land six inches square in area, which said section as above numbered is a part of the area described as follows: A tract described as the East 100.0 ft. of a tract owned by the Lincoln County Historical Society, Inc., said tract is situated in the NW 1/4 of Sec. 29, Twn. 14 North, Range 30, West of the 6th P.M., Lincoln County, Nebraska and described as such in Book 210, Page 292, of microfilm in the Register of Deeds, Lincoln County Courthouse, North Platte, Nebraska.

There is however, specifically excepted from the operation of this deed and reserved to the Society, it's successors and assigns, all gas, oil, minerals, in and under the premises hereby conveyed, together with the right of ingress and egress for the purpose of removing same and further reserving to said Society the right of enjoyment and benefit from the section of land herein described, including the right to draw from the same, all the profit, utility and advantages it may produce.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAME, together with all the hereditments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, subject, nevertheless, to the conditions, covenants and reservations contained herein, unto said purchaser, his heirs and assigns, forever, and the Society does bind itself, its heirs and assigns, To Warrant and Defend the property unto said purchaser subject to the provisions contained herein, against the lawful claims of all persons.

The purchaser shall expect no income from said section of land nor shall he occupy same. The purchaser additionally agrees that if he desires an Abstract of Title, or to Record this Deed with the Register of Deeds, he, the purchaser will bear any and all expenses connected with same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Bryce E. Cody, a blood relative of William F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill", the duly authorized and empowered attorney-in-fact for the Lincoln County Historical Society, has hereunto signed the name of the Society.

LINCOLN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Bryce E. Cody  
Its attorney-in-fact

STATE OF NEBRASKA  
COUNTY OF LINCOLN  
ON THIS 21 day of July, 1977, before me J. F. Fleak a Notary Public within and for said County, personally appeared Bryce E. Cody, attorney-in-fact for Lincoln County Historical Society, to me known to be the identical person and officer described in and who executed the above and foregoing instrument he acknowledged the same to be his voluntary act and deed as such attorney-in-fact for said Society.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and official seal the day and year last written above.

J. F. FLEAK  
NOTARY - State of Neb.  
My Commission Expires  
August 30, 1973

J. F. Fleak  
Notary Public

The following is a brief history of land formerly owned by and part of the Ranch of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody and his wife Louisa M. Cody located at North Platte, Nebraska, as shown by the files and records of Lincoln County, Nebraska.

On March 26, 1875, the United States Government gave many thousands of acres of land to the Union Pacific Railroad Company for the purpose of aiding them in constructing a vital link in our transportation system at that time, a railroad to the west coast. The Railroad Company then sold this land to the early settlers to raise funds to build their Railroad.

This particular tract of land was purchased from the Railroad Company on January 10, 1889 by William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody and his wife Louisa M. Cody to form the ranch upon which to build their home. The Cody's continued to own this land as a part of a large ranch which they managed until March 12, 1913, when it was sold by them.

During the next several decades this land was conveyed to numerous persons and Companies, including Gordon W. Lillie (Pawnee Bill), The Cody Land and Cattle Company and Scouts Rest Company.

On October 13th, 1971, The Lincoln County Historical Society purchased this site as an ideal location for a historical museum.

# CODY KIDS CORNER



## FRENCH ARTIST MEETS THE WILD WEST

Do you enjoy drawing, coloring, or painting? The artist, Rosa Bonheur, painted the infamous portrait of William F. Cody to the right. Born in Bordeaux, France on March 22, 1822, Rosa was the oldest of four children in a family of artists. Rosa loved art from a very young age. She would sketch for hours at a time with pencil and paper before she learned to talk. She especially enjoyed drawing animals. Rosa's father was a painter and an art teacher. He offered art instruction to his children and took them to Paris to visit art galleries where they studied the works of many great artists. He supported Rosa's interest in painting animals by bringing live animals to the family's studio for studying.

After the family moved to Paris in 1829, her training continued to progress. She made studies of domesticated animals, including horses, sheep, cows, goats, and rabbits in the open fields around Paris. Rosa gained a superior knowledge of animal anatomy by carefully examining their body movements. Her skills as an artist continued to progress, showing an amazing talent for sketching live animals. These paintings, inspired by her devotion to animals, earned her international acclaim.

In 1860, Rosa purchased a home near Paris where she kept many of the animals she painted as pets, including a lion & lioness, a stag "male deer," a wild sheep, a gazelle, and numerous horses.

VOLUME 10    December 2023  
By Kellie Cody Edwards - 145/44331  
Cody, WY Ambassador



In the summer of 1889, Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show set sail for the Paris Exposition aboard a steamship loaded with 97 Native Americans, 180 horses, 18 buffalo, 10 elk, 5 Texas longhorns, 4 donkeys, and 2 deer. By this time, Rosa Bonheur was one of the most famous women artists in the world. Rosa was fascinated by the Wild West Show and was invited to meet Cody and his Lakota chiefs for lunch in his private tent. Rosa was offered complete freedom to roam and photograph the camp and its people. She may have been the first painter to have the run of the Wild West grounds. She spent many days on these grounds at her easel, watching and drawing rodeos, cowboy chases, and Indian attacks.



*Rosa Bonheur painting Buffalo Bill at the 1889 Paris Exposition Universelle*

In 1889, during a Wild West Show in Paris, Rosa Bonheur painted her masterpiece, of Buffalo Bill on his horse, Tucker, as shown above.

For the next decade, Rosa often spoke about her time with Buffalo Bill on the show grounds and claimed it was a high point of her life. Her visit to the Wild West injected new enthusiasm into her work as she continued to sketch and paint Indians, buffalo, and American mustangs.

When Rosa Bonheur died in March of 1899, the newspapers honorably mentioned her connection to Buffalo Bill.



*Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show with Rosa Bonheur*



## ART CONTEST

**WE HOPE YOU'RE INSPIRED BY ROSA BONHEUR, AND WE WOULD LOVE TO SHOW OFF YOUR CREATIVE TALENTS WITH YOUR ORIGINAL ART SUBMISSION!**

**AGE GROUPS 5-12 & 13-18 ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE BY CREATING AND SUBMITTING AN ORIGINAL DRAWING OR PAINTING OF BUFFALO BILL CODY.**

**PLEASE EMAIL AN IMAGE OF YOUR CONTEST ENTRY BY MARCH 31 TO [GETKEVIN247@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GETKEVIN247@GMAIL.COM)**

**ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED BASED ON CREATIVITY, ORIGINALITY, AND TECHNIQUE.**

**WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A BOXED SET OF PRO ART SUPPLIES!**



**ENTER TO**

**WIN PRIZES**

# The American Buffalo, a Film by Ken Burns



In 1976, [Ken Burns](#), [Elaine Mayes](#), and college classmate [Roger Sherman](#) founded a production company called Florentine Films in Walpole, NH. Another Hampshire College student, [Buddy Squires](#), was invited to succeed Mayes as a founding member one year later. The trio were later joined by a fourth member, [Lawrence “Larry” Hott](#), who began his career as an attorney.

Each member works independently, but releases content under the shared name of [Florentine Films](#). As such, their individual “subsidiary” companies include [Ken Burns Media](#), [Sherman Pictures](#), and [Hott Productions](#).

We’re all familiar with Ken Burns’ impressive portfolio of over 40 documentaries, many of which we’ve already enjoyed, especially the ones that touched our family so deeply. As witnesses to much of the history of the USA, us Codys have been on one side or the other of the many issues that have captured the public’s attention and galvanized society into action. We gloried in his “[American Revolution](#),” followed his “[Lewis and Clark](#),” kept vigil throughout his “[Civil War](#)” series, admired his “[National Parks](#),” and cheered for his “[Country Music](#),” “[Baseball](#)” and “[Jazz](#)” productions.

Now with all the skull-crushing impact of a fifty-caliber slug fired from the muzzle of a [Sharps rifle](#), Ken has expanded our consciousness to the size of the Great Plains when it was home to 30 million buffalo with his latest offering, “[The American Buffalo](#),” now streaming on PBS. You’ll laugh, you’ll cry, and you’ll learn more about this magnificent creature of the Plains than you ever thought there was to know.

Yes, it is tough going in spots, watching a gang of alcoholic burnouts slaughter the last of these noble beasts, but in the end it’s worth it to see how a small group of dedicated people, Buffalo Bill included, resurrected this national icon. This is another chance to see our own William F. Cody as a hero!

## Chemical Explosion at North Platte’s Bailey Yard!



Investigators haven’t confirmed the cause of the blast in a remote corner of the Yard, but they appear to be delving into the questionable decision to load dozens of plastic barrels of [perchloric acid](#) inside a shipping container with a wood floor atop wooden pallets, even though that chemical is known to react with wood. No injuries, the smoke dissipated and the fire was quickly extinguished, estimated damage is \$500,000.

The explosion highlighted not only potential problems at the sprawling railyard but also the national rail network’s reliance on everyone involved in shipping hazardous materials taking proper precautions. As the explosion made clear, problems can be hard to spot before potentially disastrous accidents occur. Some details about the explosion might never be known because the shipping container carrying the acid was destroyed.

- Paraphrased from a November 24, 2023 article in *Fortune Magazine* by [Josh Funk](#) & the Associated Press

Federal inspectors found hundreds of defects in the rolling stock the Union Pacific uses at the world’s largest railhub, but none of those seem to explain why a shipping container filled with toxic acid exploded at North Platte’s [Bailey Yard](#) on September 14.



# Storm Ciarán Drives Jersey Families From Homes

After undergoing [explosive cyclogenesis](#) in the Atlantic Ocean on November 1, [Storm Ciarán](#) (pronounced “Keer-awn”) waded ashore and battered northern Spain, southern England, Benlux, the Netherlands, Germany and France before unloading torrential rains on Italy and the Czech Republic. Overall, the storm killed 21 people, spawned 9 tornados and caused billions in property damage.

Our Philip and Martha’s ancestral homeland in the Channel Islands suffered a T6 tornado’s [5-mile path of devastation](#), 100-mph winds, 2-inch hail and 30-foot waves, the worst since the [Great Storm of 1987](#). Jersey withstood a severe hailstorm in 1983.

About 150 residents of Jersey were displaced by flooding, fallen trees, power outages, road closures, shut schools and cancelled flights and ferries. Carl Walker, chairman of Jersey’s Consumer Council, said Storm Ciarán hitting the island was like a “scene from a disaster movie” with “golf ball sized lumps of ice.”

Only a week before Ciarán, [Storm Babet](#), an [extratropical cyclone](#), struck Portugal, Spain, Ireland, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, with strong winds and heavy rain, killing 8. No doubt the insurance companies will adjust their policies.



Wind and Waves Pound the Seawall at St. Helier.

## Happy 50th Anniversary!



After they returned from their honeymoon, she became a Dental Hygenist and he a Facilities Engineer.



“Rocky” & Nancy Spoon, off to visit their 2 kids, 6 grandkids and a great granddaughter!

While on leave from the military, “Rocky” Spoon 264/84411 bought a new [1970 Chevy Nova](#). Discharged in ’71, he returned to college where he met Nancy and they married in ’73. Recently, Rocky and Nancy celebrated their Golden Anniversary with a ride in the same ’70 Chevy Nova to the same church where they were married to celebrate with their kids and grandkids, plus the same guests and the same minister who married them!

## Milestones

*Please use the fill-in forms under CONTACTS on the website’s home page to report family news.*

### Deaths:

236/11233 Barbara Janet Siegfried’s 1st husband, Louis Francis Kohn b Addison MI 1/8/1934 d Jackson MI **10/30/2021** bur Sanford Cemetery Addison MI div

236/11242 Philip Bruce Siegfried b Kalamazoo MI 6/15/1936 d Kalamazoo MI **1/13/2021** bur Genesee Prairie Cemetery Oshtemo Kalamazoo Co MI

236/1125121 Alicia Marie Weber’s husband, Ahmed Mssissi b MAR 1976 d **9/1/2022**

256/911 Constance Dea Brown b Detroit MI 5/12/1925 d **1/8/2021**

## ICFA Executive Board

Allan Cody, President  
[allancody@rcn.com](mailto:allancody@rcn.com)

Kevin Cody, Vice President  
[getkevin247@gmail.com](mailto:getkevin247@gmail.com)

Dwight Cody, Treasurer  
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Mark June, Chaplain  
[markanddonnajune@gmail.com](mailto:markanddonnajune@gmail.com)

Darcey Zumwalt,  
DAR Consultant

Special Thanks to Kellie Edwards for her Cody Kids Corner!

Please help us with [Donations](#) and [Voluntary Annual Dues](#)!

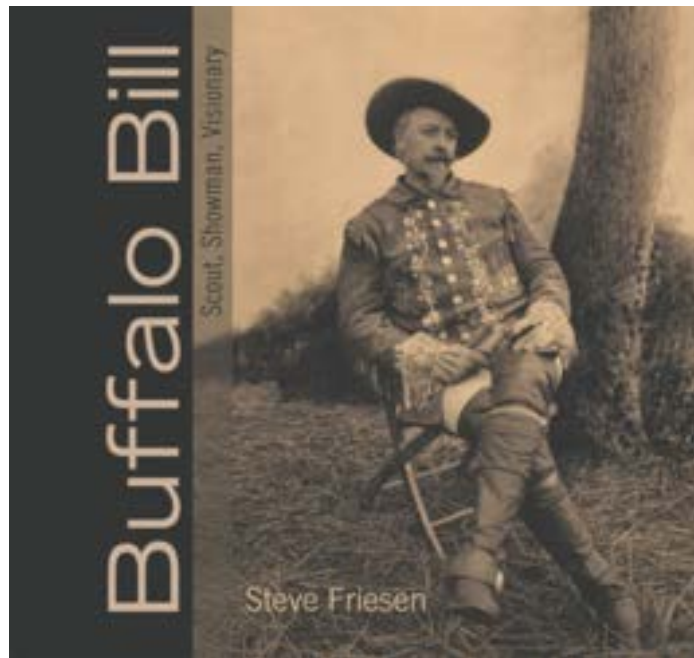
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OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
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## Book Reviews



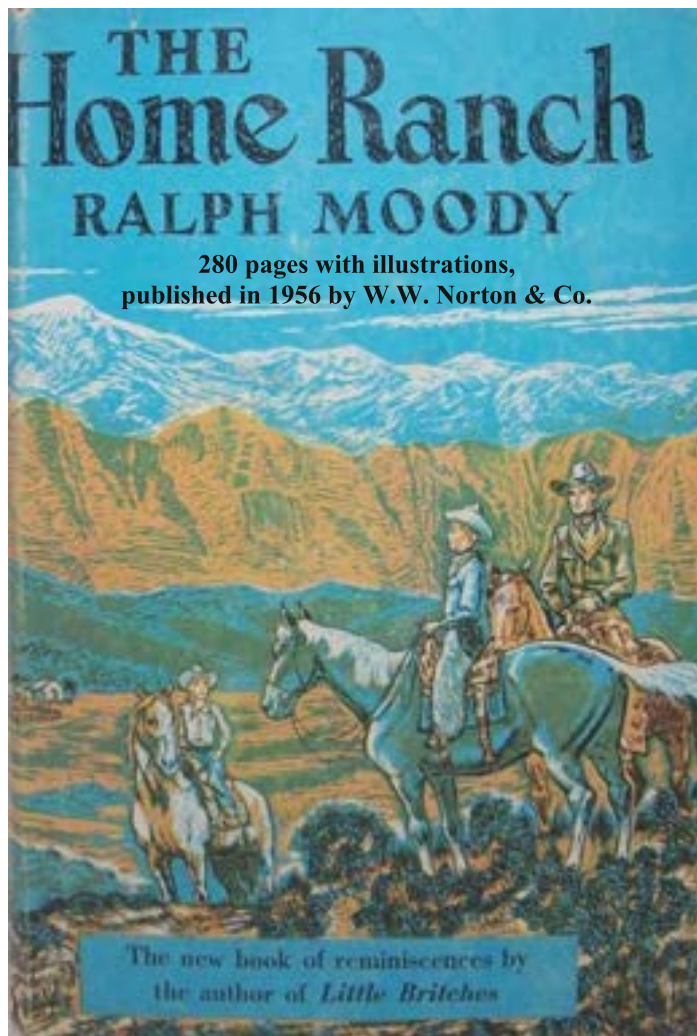
**176 pages, published in 2010  
by Fulcrum Publishing, Golden CO.**

This is a book about celebrity — what drove William F. Cody to seek it, how he achieved it and how it took on a life of its own, propelling [Buffalo Bill](#) into a worldwide brand-name still recognized today.

Cody's foster son and Wild West performer, [Johnny Baker](#) built a museum up by his gravesite. Stocking it with Wild West memorabilia, artifacts and personal belongings, Baker opened it on Memorial Day 1921. Today, the [Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave](#) remains open to visitors atop Lookout Mountain. In this book, Museum Director [Steve Friesen](#) highlights its collection and offers a Cody retrospective.

With that understood, the book is just plain fun, filled with full-color images of iconic [Wild West posters](#) and props, portraits of Cody from age 11 literally to the grave, photos of his cast and famous friends, and all manner of Buffalo Bill souvenirs, costumes and heirlooms, including the Medal of Honor he earned during the Indian wars.

Steve Friesen is also the author of "[A Modest Mennonite Home](#)," and "[Lakota Performers in Europe](#)." Steve will present his new book, "[Galloping Gourmet: Eating and Drinking with Buffalo Bill](#)," at our 2024 Reunion!



**280 pages with illustrations,  
published in 1956 by W.W. Norton & Co.**

In the third book of his "Little Britches" trilogy, [Ralph Moody](#) turns again to Colorado, the scene of those two delightful earlier books about his boyhood, "[Little Britches](#)" and "[Man of the Family](#)." This is an extension of Ralph Moody's recollections of his twelfth year, and fits within the framework of "Man of the Family" between chapters 25 and 26.

"[The Home Ranch](#)" has all the warm and wonderful ingredients which made his first two books such universal favorites with readers of all ages. The book teems with exciting and poignant incidents and with memorable characters, most of them good, kindly, generous people — though there is a villain. Mr. Moody is at his best in picturing a young boy's struggles with economic and other adversities. He writes with such convincing honesty that the reader knows that this is the way things really were.

In this book, Little Britches becomes the "man" in his family after his father's untimely death, taking on paternal responsibilities as well as opportunities. During the summer of his twelfth year he works on a cattle ranch in the shadow of Pike's Peak, earning a dollar a day. Little Britches is tested against seasoned cowboys on the range and in the corral. He drives cattle through a dust storm, eats his weight in flapjacks, survives a flash flood and falls in love with a blue outlaw horse and the ranch owner's hazel-eyed daughter.

Reading bedtime stories to kids is a great way to end the day on a positive note and has many benefits such as: Bonding Time, Improves Reading Skills and Spelling, Sparks Imagination, Teaches Life Skills, Promotes Independent Reading, Relaxation and Creates Memories. Think of reading to your child as a fun and enjoyable activity!

# Cody Villa’s New “Okha-kon-kon-hee” Mural!



Artist **Johnny Dame** with George Skene and the mural.



The Okhakonkonhee Mural on the Ida House at **Cody Villa**.



A View of **Crooked Lake** aka, **Lake Okhakonkonhee**.



The Codys of the Ida House.



As **Citrus Pioneers**, the Codys had Acres of Groves.



Helping Hands Made Lighter Work at Harvest Time.



Long Ago, Giants Ruled Okhakonkonhee.



A Futuristic View of the “Florida Islands?”

# BUFFALO BILL “BUNTING”?

by Christopher Bunting

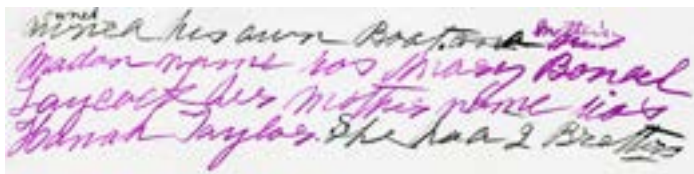
The 1955 biography of William F. Cody - “[Buffalo Bill, King of the Old West](#)” - is based on accounts by his sister, Julia Cody Goodman - written by her and Elizabeth Jane Leonard and edited by James Williams Hoffman. On page 25, Julia names their mother as: “Mary Bunting Laycock.”



Mary Ann B. (Laycock) Cody, about 1850.

Why then do many other sources instead give Buffalo Bill’s mother as [Mary Ann Bonsell Laycock](#) (variably spelt as “Bonsall”, “Bonsal”, “Bonsel”, etc)?

It may be due to the fact that Julia in a far earlier account – a manuscript of 1926 – writes of her mother: “*Mother’s madan [maiden] name was Mary Bonsel Laycock & her mother name was Hanah Taylor.*”



Extract of Julia’s 1926 Manuscript, mentioning Mary Bonsel Laycock.

So, is Mary Ann’s middle name “Bunting” or “Bonsel”?

To quote Research Assistant Nathan Bender, at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West’s McCracken Research Library, “*...in the biographical literature about William Frederick Cody, there is no common agreement about his mother’s middle name.*” Can any of this confusion be resolved, and some clarity provided?

We know that William F. Cody visited his mother’s relatives, but despite reports to the contrary, he never actually made any recorded claim about his Bunting heritage.

What accounts for the use of “Bonsel” – and if that proves to be Mary B. Laycock’s real middle name – does this exclude the Bunting family from William F. Cody’s pedigree?

Firstly, and perhaps obviously, this could be a simple mistake. At 83, Julia was still sharp, and her standard of literacy impressive, but after 75 years, memories can fade. Still, how and why did the “Bonsel” name come to her at all?

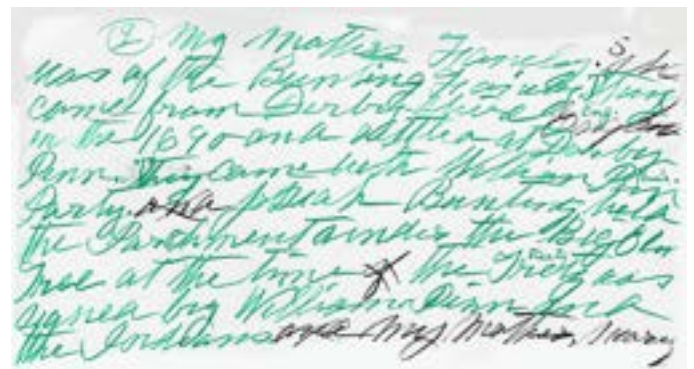
Like the Buntings, the Bonsalls immigrated to Darby Pennsylvania to live with other Quakers. Mary Ann B. Laycock’s Quaker grandparents, [Thomas Laycock and Hannah Bunting’s](#) 1772 Marriage Covenant, pledged before the Darby Monthly Meeting, lists Mary Bonsall and Ann Bonsall as witnesses. Thomas and Hannah’s daughter Sarah married Vincent Bonsall in 1796, and their daughter Mary married Isaac Bonsall in 1807.

Thomas and Hannah’s son [Samuel’s “outside” marriage to Hannah Taylor in 1806](#) at Philadelphia’s 2nd Presbyterian Church signifies their separation from their Quaker past.

But, Mary Ann B. Laycock’s grandmother was Hannah Bunting, so why wouldn’t that be a likelier middle name?

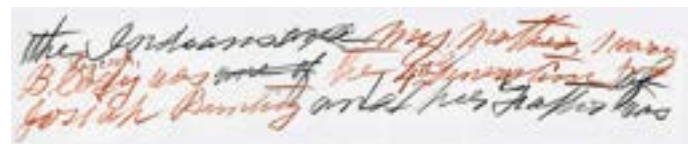
Julia tells us in “King of the Old West”: “*Her <Mary B. Laycock’s> mother, whose maiden name was Bunting, had been descended from the prominent Bunting family of Derbyshire, England, whose members were among the colonists sent to the New World by William Penn in the years between 1680 and 1690.*”

Likewise, in Julia’s Manuscript: “*My mother’s family was of the Bunting family. They came from Derbyshire, England, in the year 1690 and settled at Darby, Pennsylvania. They came with William Penn’s Party. Josiah Bunting held the Parchment under the Big Elm Tree at the time the Treaty was signed by William Penn and the Indians.*”



Extract of Julia’s 1926 Manuscript mentioning the Bunting Family

She continues: “*My mother, Mary B. (Laycock) Cody was the 4th Generation from Josiah Bunting...*”



Extract of Julia’s 1926 Manuscript mentioning Josiah Bunting

## BUFFALO BILL “BUNTING”? *(continued...)*

Mary B. Laycock’s Bunting heritage seems confirmed and indisputable, irrespective of her middle name. Although it would be remiss not to ask - which middle name is more accurate?

The question currently stands at something of a stalemate. However, an answer may still hide within collections of genealogical notes handwritten by Julia Cody – such as that held by the [University of Wyoming’s American Heritage Center](#).

This Bunting ancestry has since resulted in a number of varied claims in circulation, the most enduring of which appear to be:

1. **“W.F. Cody descends from William Bunting – son of Anthony Bunting of Matlock – who sailed to Darby PA on the ship Neptune in 1703.”** (LaVerne Hayes)

This can’t be correct. Anthony Bunting’s eldest son [William remained in England and was buried there](#).

Other William Buntings certainly came to America during this era, but not necessarily of the Derbyshire lines.

2. **“Mary B. Laycock was descended from Josiah Bunting, who is said to be the person holding the parchment in the painting showing William Penn signing his treaty with the Indians.”** (Don Russell)

Josiah Bunting only seems to have become a name five decades after the era of Penn and the Indians.

This leaves us with a final claim:

3 **“Cody’s great-grandmother Hannah Bunting was daughter of Samuel Bunting from Matlock, and his wife Sarah Fearne.”** (Savanna)

This appears more promising, as Hannah Bunting was daughter of [Samuel Bunting](#). Samuel – originally of Matlock – was the English forefather of many American Buntings.

And further, Julia Cody stated the name of the mother of Mary B. Laycock was [Hannah Taylor](#). Hannah Taylor was daughter of Hannah Bunting (who married [Thomas Laycock](#)).

We finally come to some clarity on this legend. As for Julia’s own accounts, how do these hold up?

*“They <the Buntings> came with William Penn’s Party...”:*

Penn arrived in 1682 on the ship, “Welcome”. The earliest Derbyshire Buntings look to be Samuel, John and Job on the ship “Kent” in 1682. So, they probably did not actually “come with” Penn – but Julia also said the Buntings were...

*“...sent to the New World by William Penn...”*

William Penn likely inspired these fellow Quakers to follow him. And they certainly all ended up in the exact same vicinity during 1682.

Concerning *“...the Parchment under the Big Elm Tree...”*:

As stated, it is difficult to confirm evidence of any “Josiah Bunting” living earlier than 1734 and active during the early times of the colonisation; we know the male Bunting settlers – from Derbyshire – were the three sons of Anthony: namely, Samuel, Job and John; so, what explains the story of the treaty with the Indians?

It is feasible that one of these sons, probably Job (1660-1703) was short for “Jobadiah”. Either name being mistaken over time for “Josiah” would be understandable.

There was also the matter of Anthony’s grandson, [Samuel Bunting](#) (who also came to America in 1722). Many American Buntings can trace their descent directly from him. In 1727, he married [Sarah Fearne](#) – daughter of Josiah Fearne. Their son was [Josiah Bunting](#) (1734-1813). This name became a prominent and recurring one via the many branches descending from the ten children of Josiah and Sarah (Hunt) Bunting.

Hence, all this may go some way in explaining the understandable confusion arising through oral transmission over generations concerning this particular name of “Josiah Bunting”.

Things begin to make more sense when we consult records kept by the Bunting family.

Samuel Bunting – son of Anthony – was considered the founder of the family in America. He married Mary, daughter of [Thomas Foulke](#), one of the nine Commissioners sent over by William Penn to negotiate with the Indians for their land. Note the use of the phrasing *“sent over by William Penn”* which Julia Cody Goodman echoed, but within a different context. Family legends can often contain nuggets of truth, often a little bent out of shape.

Thomas Foulke was associated with different Bunting lines, especially with fellow [Quaker](#), Anthony Bunting of Matlock. The pair faced considerable persecution for their beliefs in England – including jail time.

Some of their children – [Samuel Bunting and Mary Foulke](#), as well as [John Bunting and Sarah Flouke](#) – married.

Upon his death in 1700, Anthony was perhaps even laid to rest in the [Quaker Burial Ground](#) set alongside Foulke’s former home in Tupton (Derbyshire). Foulke’s former house, Quaker’s Yard, remains standing to this day, alongside the now-overgrown Tupton burial ground. (My recent work on Anthony hints that he perhaps was, as expected, instead laid to rest at the Quaker Burial Ground at Buntingfield, Ashover.)

It would stand that Foulke accompanied Penn to the famous treaty meeting of 1682. It might well naturally follow that he decided upon taking his son-in-law, namely, Samuel, who was an esteemed minister, and likely educated and literate – thereby proving useful for aiding any type of negotiation.

# BUFFALO BILL “BUNTING”? *(continued...)*



Above: [Benjamin West's "Penn's Treaty with the Indians"](#) – Does it show Samuel Bunting – or even his brother, Job?

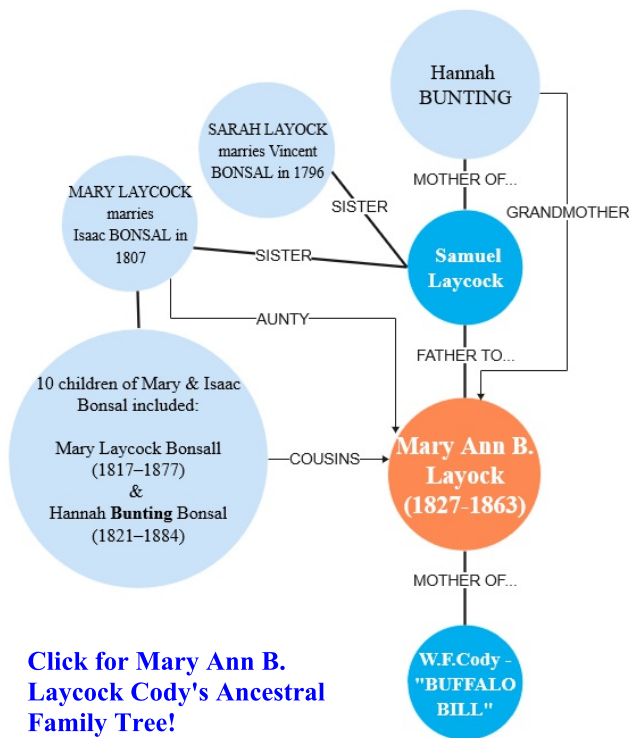
Perhaps for support, brother Job Bunting also accompanied them. The painting – Benjamin West's "[Penn's Treaty with the Indians](#)" – after all, shows a group of diverse settlers, including Quakers, interacting with the native people.

The man holding the parchment is not an older man, as Thomas Foulke would have been – as some of the Quaker group clearly are. Could this be the younger man, Samuel Bunting, who was only in his late thirties? Or his brother Job, in his early twenties?

(We note that West painted this almost 100 years later, using a portrait of Penn, so the other likenesses may not be as accurate. Besides William Penn, we count 9 Englishmen in the painting, likely the 9 Commissioners appointed to govern in Penn's place after he returned to England.)

I am confident we have gone some way, at least, in shedding light onto this Cody-Bunting Legend. We must now return to the man with far too many legends of his own to list here – William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody.

In my following article, we will study William Frederick Cody's direct interaction with his "ancestral motherland" of Derbyshire in England. Coming next - Part 2: "Buffalo Bill: Son of Old Derbyshire?"



[Click for Mary Ann B. Laycock Cody's Ancestral Family Tree!](#)