

THE CODY FAMILY
(Descendants of Philip and Martha at Beverly, Mass. 1698)

Published by Ernest William Cody
Secretary-Treasurer
413 Ridout St. North, London, Ontario

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We are glad to hand you this report of the minutes of the 19th. Annual Meeting and Reunion of the Cody Family held at Zanesville, Ohio, Aug. 23-24, 1947.

Saturday, Aug. 23, 1.30 p.m.

Registration of members commenced in private conference room; total registration of reunion 158 persons, coming from Massachusetts, Ohio, Michigan, Ontario, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Kentucky and Florida. These 158 persons are descendants of the following fifth generation branches of our family: Ansel, Amanda, Melinda, Anson, Delila, John Jay, Lyman, Philip, Mervin, Stephen, Alice, Hiram Reed, Katherine, John 1821 and Nathan. Of the 19 annual reunions of our family the attendance at Zanesville was the second highest, only being surpassed by the Marietta, Ohio reunion of 1936, when 164 were present. We are indeed gratified by this fine attendance at our first post war gathering.

In the absence of our President, Lynn Ray Cody of Saratoga, Calif. the meeting was called to order by Past President Richard A. Cody of Boston, who most capably acted as Chairman for the afternoon. Mrs. Irene Cody Mosey of Sheridan, Illinois, opened the meeting with a most appropriate prayer. A warm welcome to the State of Ohio was delivered by Chester W. Crouch of Columbus. The "In Memoriam" service in memory of members of our family whose deaths had been reported since our last memoriam list was conducted by Mrs. Blanche McClenehan of Toulon, Ill.; hers was a most fitting tribute. The names included in this list follow:

Name	5th. Gen. Branch	Name	5th. Gen. Branch
John Franklin Ferrier	Franklin	Luther Morrill Cody	Philip
Henry Clemenhausen	Nancy	Henry Mirejovsky	Alonzo
Mrs. Edith Emsley	Nancy	Edna Yvonne Adam	Harrison
Mrs. Ella L. White	Darius	Mrs. Etta Cody Cadd	Rhodolphus
Mrs. Daisy Bell Myers	Isaac 1811	Harry Elseworth Myers	Isaac 1811
Willard Barnhart	Philip	Harry Ernest Crouch	Julia
Miss Emma Jane Bowman	Amanda	Mrs. Cornelia Cody Hamer	Rhodolphus
Clarence Russell	Delila	John Obadiah Richards	Aaron
Hugh Smith Gamble	Amanda	Mrs. Della Hecker	Ansel
Evelyn Crystal Mowry	Achsah	Vern Floyd Wilson	Melinda
Minerva Josephine Chapman	Sarah	Leslie Robert Benner	Darius
Mrs. Grace L. Swims	Sophia 1801	Fred Swain	Melinda
Mrs. John R. Gamble	Amanda	Alan Fisher Nightingale	Nathan
Frank Ivory Hall	Nathan		

(possibly there have been other deaths; these only ones reported)

The Chairman then introduced the Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody of London, Ontario, who presented the business matters of the meeting: -

1. A letter of greeting from President Lynn Ray Cody and his regrets that due to ill health he could not be present, but voicing the hope that he could join with us at some future gathering.
2. Secretary's Report - the Secretary explained that during the war years when our general activity was more or less curtailed that the structure of our family organization had been maintained by means of our bulletins, our Rolls of Honor, by correspondence, and by personal contacts among the many families, that our vital records had been maintained in good order, new branches of our family had been located, and we were now ready for a further period of progress and expansion. He explained the urgent need for the prompt reporting of births, marriages and deaths, and changes in address.
3. Treasurer's Report - figures were introduced showing that our annual income from dues seldom exceeds three hundred dollars from a membership of 1100 families, or in other words, 25% pay dues, 75% do not. It was explained that the average monthly expense of our organization is about \$25.00, which for twelve months indicates why we seldom have a surplus. The Treasurer asked for a better response in annual dues, especially for next year so that an addressograph machine may be purchased for the mailing of our bulletins; this subject will be dealt with later in this report.
4. In the absence of the Chairman of the Historical Board, Miss Lydia S. Cody of Cleveland, Ohio, the Secretary-Treasurer presented her report. It showed the great amount of careful work that had been done in assembling the genealogy of our family. He pointed out that during the past 22 years our family records had been assembled in methodical form and published in the form of Cody Family Directories in 1926, 1927, 1936 and 1941; these directories have served a most useful purpose, not only in preserving our records but as the binding force of our organization. However, it was pointed out that another need arises, and that is

the publication in detail of the historical and biographical data of those Cody men and women of the past, who, by their name of Cody, have perpetuated our family name, and those of the present and the future bearing the name of Cody, who will assure the perpetuation of our family name for the oncoming generations. This is what is termed a genealogy; the master key of a family. It was pointed out that while our vital records for genealogical purposes are in excellent shape, we lack much in historical and biographical data which must be secured before a genealogy can be undertaken, that estimates of costs and methods of financing must be studied, and much general work to be done. General discussion then took place on the subject; those speaking were Dr. Allison K. Walker, Frederick C. Cody, Mrs. Mary Dearth, Mrs. Blanche McClenehan, Chester W. Crouch, and Mrs. Mary Croft and Richard A. Cody and Osborne E. Stacy. All were in favor of an early start on a Cody genealogy and also supported the publication of a revised Cody Family Directory as soon as possible. A motion was then unanimously passed as follows: "That the Cody Family Genealogy be published in book form, and following established genealogical practice in its preparation, if and when found possible".

5. In the absence of a detailed report from the Chairman of the Memorial Board, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen of Cody, Wyoming, the Secretary outlined the history of the Buffalo Bill Memorial Museum at Cody, Wyoming from the time of its erection in 1927. He reported that at the present time the Museum is very busy and that Mrs. Allen is carrying a tremendous burden in her duties as Custodian. A more detailed report of the Museum will be published at a later date when Mrs. Allen has an opportunity to submit her report. Members of the family who have seen Mrs. Allen recently brought greetings from her to the meeting.

6. The Secretary then presented the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, which met in the morning for the purpose of selecting a Board of Directors, to be elected on Feb. 26, 1948 (birthday of Colonel William F. Cody), and to hold office for one year, and to replace the present Board in office since 1941. This Nominating Committee was in charge of three Past Presidents, Richard A. Cody, Alvin N. Cody and Frederick C. Cody; their recommendation was as follows:

Alvin Nelson Cody	Flint, Mich.	Honorary President
Harry Arthur Cody	Ripon, Wisconsin	President
Herbert William Cody	Woodstock, Ontario	Vice President
Ernest William Cody	London, Ontario	Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Marshall G. Mines	De Land, Florida	Chaplain
Richard Aldus Cody	Newton Highlands, Mass.	Chairman, Advisory Board
Mrs. Mary Jester Allen	Cody, Wyoming	Chairman, Memorial Board
Miss Lydia S. Cody	Cleveland, Ohio	Chairman, Historical Board

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Stuart Alverton Cody	Geneva, N.Y.	Northeastern U.S.A.
Dana Miller	Zephyrhills, Florida	Southeastern U.S.A.
Mrs. Grace Cody Davies	Mazon, Illinois	Central U.S.A.
Mrs. Ruth Cody Wietzel	Zanesville, Ohio	State of Ohio
Mrs. Leora Livingston	Niles, Ohio	State of Ohio
Mrs. Norah Cody Holliday	Cedar Bluffs, Kansas	Midwestern U.S.A.
Halbert Sylvanus Deuel	Medford, Oregon	Northwestern U.S.A.
Dr. William Frederick Cody	Los Angeles, Calif.	Southwestern U.S.A.
Mrs. Anna Bayley	Brantford, Ontario	Eastern Canada
Harold Wilson Thornton	Regina, Sask.	Western Canada

The Secretary-Treasurer announced that he would like to retire from that position as soon as some one could be secured to take over; he pointed out that he had held office since 1932, and that had it not been for the constant assistance of his wife, Ella Jean Cody, he would have been forced to relinquish the work some years ago. It was suggested by the meeting, after giving the Secretary and his wife a rising vote of confidence, that he remain in office until the Cody Family Genealogy and the revised Cody Family Directory are published, and then a successor be secured. A motion was passed that the above nominated Board of Directors be approved. A further motion was passed extending a vote of thanks to the retiring Board for their work during the past six years.

7. General discussion then took place concerning the date and place of the 1948 reunion. The Pacific Northwest was mentioned, the Middle West was also suggested. A motion was finally passed that in this report of the 1947 reunion a request be made to our families west of the Mississippi River to write the Secretary-Treasurer their views and suggestions of the place and date of the 1948 reunion, and that the Board of Directors be guided by their response in making the selection. Will you please do this?

8. A motion to adjourn until the dinner at 6.30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23, 6.30 p.m.

100 members of our family assembled in private dining room for this delightful evening meal. The dinner party was called to order by the Master of Ceremonies, Past President Alvin N. Cody of Flint, Mich. The invocation was given by Rev. Dr. Charles F. Bowman, and dinner then served. Following the dinner each person introduced themselves.

We had as a dinner guest Mrs. Dr. Leonard of Broken Bow, Nebraska, who has completed a manuscript of a book of the life of Colonel William F. Cody; she was intimately associated in this work some years ago with Mrs. Julia Cody Goodman, sister of Colonel Cody, and with the late Luther Morrill Cody. She briefly described her undertaking and took with her our good wishes.

A letter was read from a member of our family, Mrs. Edna R. Smith of Madison, Wisconsin, suggesting that perhaps at some time our family organization could establish a scholarship, to be known as the "Luther Morrill Cody Memorial Scholarship", to be open to some earnest, needy young Cody descendant, who is interested in say studying for the ministry, medicine, or some profession, and does not have the financial backing. This most worthy suggestion will be carefully studied by the Board of Directors.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mrs. Ruth Cody Wietzel and her husband Karl F. Wietzel, our Local Committee, for their efforts in our behalf. Great credit is due them for the outstanding success of the reunion; they overcame many difficulties, one being the change of place of meeting and dinner. Only a few days before the Reunion they were informed that the "Idle Hour Inn" where our meeting and dinner were scheduled, had closed up; they were nearly frantic, but by power of persuasion, were able to arrange with the Zanesville Y.W.C.A. to take care of us. Probably it was a blessing in disguise because we certainly enjoyed the facilities of the Y.W.C.A. and we are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Wietzel for their fine initiative in handling the difficult situation that arose.

Sunday, Aug. 24, 10.30 a.m.

Some 70 members of our family arrived at Cobourn Methodist Church to receive the morning message of Rev. Dr. Bowman in his beautiful place of worship. We were seated in a body, we thoroughly enjoyed the service, especially Dr. Bowman's inspiring sermon "Goodness Pervading The World". He made many references to our family, his long association with it, the family's part in a better world, our opportunity and our responsibility. We were stirred by his message and came away with the conviction that perhaps in our hundreds of families we could do more to create "Goodness Pervading The World". We appreciate Dr. Bowman's courtesy to us, and the time and effort he gave in our behalf.

Sunday, Aug. 24, 1.00 p.m.

Over 150 members of our family, including many children, gathered at Moxahala Park for our basket picnic. Past President Frederick C. Cody of Cleveland, Ohio, was the able Master of Ceremonies; there was food in great abundance (trust our Ohio cousins to take care of that angle). Surely many gained weight. The winners of the Picnic prizes, donated by the Board of Directors, were as follows:

Oldest gentleman present	Chalmer Fairbanks, Vincent, Ohio	81 yrs,
Oldest lady present	Mrs. Lucy Pugh, Zanesville, Ohio	73 "
Longest married couple present	Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Pugh, Zanesville, O.	50 "
Latest married couple present	Mr. & Mrs. Millard D. Foster of Little Hocking, Ohio	4 "
Oldest person bearing the surname CODY	Charles Edgar Cody, Onaway, Mich.	71 "
Person attending from greatest distance	Joseph M. Miller Zephyrhills, Florida	
Person attending greatest number of reunions (Board of Directors debarred from this prize)	Mrs. Mary Dearth, Marietta, Ohio	5
Youngest boy present	Michael Earl Bowman, Cincinnati, Ohio	10 months
Youngest girl present	Martha Hazen, Philo, Ohio	19 months
Largest family present	Dr. & Mrs. E.B. Bowman, Cincinnati	6
Youngest child bearing name of CODY	Cody Lee Wietzel, Zanesville, Ohio	3 yrs.

Following the dinner and prizes, Dr. Allison K. Walker of Buchtel, Ohio read his poem written for the occasion of our reunion. So many fine thoughts are expressed in this poem that we quote it in its entirety on the following page:

1

The Codys come from far and near
To meet on this occasion:
'Tis fine to greet such kindly folk
And know we are relation.

2

This day all came with pleasant smiles
Extending heart-felt greetings
Am sure we all will feel well paid
For attending Cody meetings

3

We welcome all who've come this day
Taking part in our devotion:
We feel that if you "reune" once
You will always have the notion,

4

Each one will try to spread some cheer
To cousins we each love so dear:
And sympathy extend to those,
Who've had their trials and their woes.

5

As many here have travelled far,
We hope no happenings may mar
A joyous time for all this day
Ere each must start his homeward way

6

The days have gone since last we met
As have our joys and sorrows,
But hope eternal in us spring
We'll fare better on the morrow.

7

We shed our tears for those who've gone
Let smiles go to the living,
Then life to all will sweeter be
And we'll enjoy the giving.

8

So may our lives the better be
For having met together,
That we may show real family love
We're having for the other.

9

The Cody blood that's in our veins
Make us enjoy sunshine and rains;
And may we all be closer bound,
As Cody blood flows 'round and 'round.

10

And now we're here, we'll spread our
cheer

To help others on the way:
So when our parting hour has come
It will have been a joyous day.

Now don't forget we'll meet next year,
So start right in to figure
Insist that other cousins come
That our meeting will be bigger.

12

At this day's end we'll say goodbye
And hand clasps draw us nearer,
And may the Cody Family be
To each a little dearer

Allison K. Walker, M.D.

For a couple of hours social visiting was enjoyed, taking of pictures, the children enjoying the swimming pool, amusements, riding the ponies, and every one enjoying the fine baskets of apples brought by John A. Walker of Little Hocking, Ohio from his own orchards, and so ended the 19th. Annual Reunion of the Cody Family.

SPECIAL NOTE - Previous mention has been made in this report of our desire to purchase an addressograph machine for the mailing of our family bulletins. This is desperately needed and will reduce our labor materially; it will also mean that we can furnish you with more bulletins because the labor of addressing envelopes will be cut at least two thirds. Immediately this need became known at the reunion, Richard A. Cody of Boston donated the sum of fifty dollars towards its purchase; we do appreciate that generous contribution. It is thought that perhaps others of our family might care to contribute to this fund. The machine will cost at least one hundred dollars, and if a good response is made we will get a better machine than the hundred dollar variety, which is the cheapest on the market. So many have at various times expressed a desire to help us in this work; here is an opportunity to be of real service in the purchase of this time and labor saving device. All contributions will be gratefully received by the Secretary-Treasurer. In the use of the addressograph machine each person's name and address is on a plate; please make sure that your correct address is made known to us at once before these plates are made up.

GENERAL NOTES

1. Please notify us promptly of births, marriages and deaths.
2. Please pay your annual dues of one dollar promptly.
3. Please notify us immediately of changes in address.

LYNN RAY CODY
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Saratoga, California
PRESIDENT

ERNEST WILLIAM CODY
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London, Ontario
SECRETARY-TREASURER