

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

Published by Ernest William Cody  
Secretary Treasurer  
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We are happy to hand you this condensed report of the 20th. Annual Reunion of the Cody Family, held at Oberlin, Kansas, Saturday and Sunday, August 21-22, 1948. This was a most successful reunion, and we ask you to give the report your careful study and circulate it among members of your family.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1.30 p.m.

Registration commenced in conference room of the Oddfellows-Rebecca Hall; this registration was in charge of Don Slawson, age 15, great grandnephew of Colonel William Frederick Cody. Don did a fine job with his registration book. Total registration of reunion - 105, coming from Kansas, South Dakota, California, Ohio, Nebraska, Ontario, Illinois, Missouri, Massachusetts and Colorado. These 105 persons are descendants of the following fifth generation branches of our family: David, Darius, Delila, Lydia Moore, Elson, John 1821, Elijah 1807, Melinda, Nathan, Philip, Amanda, Anson and Isaac 1811. A very fine attendance for such hot weather.

In the absence of the President, Harry Arthur Cody of Ripon, Wisconsin, our veteran Chairman of the Board of Directors, Richard Aldus Cody of Boston, Mass. called the meeting to order and acted as Chairman for the afternoon. Dr. Allison K. Walker of Buchtel, Ohio offered the opening prayer. A hearty welcome to Oberlin and the State of Kansas was extended by our host, George McKinley Cody. The "In Memoriam" service in memory of members of our family whose deaths have been reported since our last reunion was conducted by Mrs. Blanche McClenehan of Toulon, Ill.; hers was a most inspiring tribute. The names included in this list follow:

Name	5th. Gen. Branch	Name	5th. Gen. Branch
Elwood Ross Barberree	Milla	Frank Ivory Hall	Nathan
Alan Fisher Nightingale	Nathan	Philip John Caulfield	Elijah
Roy Parker Marsh	Philip	Mrs. Hannah Cody Grant	Stephen
Mrs. Jennie Letson	Lyman	Allen Edgerly Lehmer	Elijah
Miss Margaret Agnes Scott	Milla	Ralph Nicholas Fay	Charles
Mrs. William Jay Cody	Lyman	Miss Blanche Cora Cody	Harrison
Mrs. Minerva Fowler Rounds	Nancy	Mrs. Michael F. Cody	Lyman
Mrs. Kate Odell Fowler	Lydia Odell	Miss Irene Chapman	Sarah Reed
Mr. & Mrs. Owen E. Siegfried	Katherine	Clarence Clyde White	Ansel
Mrs. Minnie Siegfried Pitts	Katherine	Mrs. Patricia Burrow	Katherine
Mrs. Freeman D. Barberree	Milla	Paul Clarence Duncan	Amanda
Edward Earl Quigley	Rhodolphus	Charles David Cody	John 1791
Mrs. Jefferson Shaw	Martha Barnhart	Joseph P. Boshart	Darius
Mrs. Lora Putnam Ward	Elizabeth	Ray Johnson	Darius
Horace William Lee	Elizabeth	Mrs. Beth Cody Gassman	Mervin
Charles Park Milbank	Sophia 1806	Mrs. Alma Wilson Lines	Alonzo
Robert William Wright	Sophia 1806	Mrs. Samuel Winters	Julia
Mrs. Lillian Avery	Martha Moore	Willard S. Gamble	Sarah Reed
Mrs. Charles J. Cody	David		

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

Chairman Richard A. Cody then introduced the Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody of London, Ontario, who presented the business matters of the meeting under the following headings:

1. A letter of greeting from President Harry Arthur Cody of Ripon, Wisconsin, and his regrets that due to illness he could not be present.
2. Ernest William Cody brought greetings from the Canadian cousins, and also expressed his apologies for appearing at the reunion wearing a leg cast and crutches, the aftermath of a motor accident on May 15th. resulting in a broken leg. (The cast is now off and the crutches will soon be in the discard.)
3. Minutes of Zanesville, Ohio reunion of Aug. 23-24, 1947 declared adopted.
4. Secretary-Treasurer's report - he outlined the work done through the past year; new branches of our family located and added to the records; the current handling of correspondence; the publication of bulletins, the maintenance of our vital records, and stressed the necessity for the prompt reporting of births, marriages, deaths and changes in address.
5. Treasurer's report - figures were introduced showing a small balance on hand. An addressing machine had been purchased at an outlay of \$150, which is helping greatly in the publication of our bulletins. The Treasurer pointed out that of our 1100 families annual dues are seldom received from more than 25%. With the heavy expense of our addressing machine he urged a better showing in the payment of dues for the future and the necessity of building up a surplus. A goodly amount of annual dues were received at the reunion for which we are grateful.
6. In the absence of the Chairman of our Historical Board, Miss Lydia S. Cody of Cleveland, Ohio, the Secretary-Treasurer presented her report. It showed the vast amount of careful work that had been done in the assembling of our family genealogy and the plans for the publication of this work as soon as possible. This opened general discussion for plans for publication of the genealogy and also the publication of a revised Directory as soon as possible. It was pointed out by several that our present Directory is seven years old and many newly located branches of the family do not appear in this book. With the rapid expansion of our family

it was felt that the new Directory should be prepared quickly. It was therefore decided that plans for the publication of both the Genealogy and a new Directory should be pushed.

7. In the absence of a detailed report from the Chairman of our Memorial Board, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen of Cody, Wyoming, the Secretary outlined the status of present Museum activities. The Burlington Railroad have recently conveyed to the Cody Family and the Buffalo Bill Memorial Association title to the old boyhood home of Colonel William F. Cody and which building was moved from Le Clair, Iowa to Cody, Wyoming. We hope that this old building can be used as a Cody Family Museum Annex of the present Museum at Cody. We shall hope to have from Mrs. Allen shortly a detailed report of her plans for the housing of family relics in this historic old building at Cody. Members of the family who have recently seen Mrs. Allen brought greetings from her.

8. The Secretary then presented the recommendation of the Nominating Committee which met in the morning. The recommendation was made that the present Board of Directors serve for another year, commencing Feb. 26, 1949. Motion carried.

9. General discussion took place concerning the date and place of the 1949 reunion. After consideration of various points a motion was carried that the 1949 reunion be held in the State of Oregon at a time and place to be settled by a vote of the families living in Northern California, Oregon and Washington; a recommendation was also made that the 1950 reunion be held in Western Canada. Arrangements will later be made for a vote of the Northern California, Oregon and Washington families to decide the date and place of next year's reunion.

10. New Business - open discussion took place on the following subjects:

(a) the desirability of holding more regional reunions in various areas. A fine report of the Ohio regional reunion of Aug. 8th. was given by Dr. Allison Walker and Mrs. Mary Dearth. A movement is already on foot for a Kansas regional reunion for next year. The value of these regional reunions cannot be overemphasized.

(b) the matter of local family history was introduced, and it was felt that each branch should do more locally in recording the local happenings of their respective branches; for instance, pioneer days in "Bleeding Kansas" and in which Elson Cody, Elijah Cody 1807 and Isaac Cody 1811 took such a prominent part; much could be done in other areas along similar lines.

(c) Richard A. Cody made the very timely suggestion that at each reunion a master chart of our family groups be on exhibition for the purpose of enabling people to identify themselves, and with other groups.

(d) Chester W. Crouch of Columbus, Ohio introduced the question of holding reunions in cooler weather, perhaps September. General discussion ensued and it was decided that the Local Committee in charge of each reunion should settle on the most suitable dates based on their knowledge of climatic conditions.

(e) Improvements for annual reunions - general discussion took place regarding making the reunions more attractive to our young people and interesting our young people more in our family organization. Marion Coffey made the suggestion that special bulletins be issued for the young people and that the younger ones be asked to contribute items of interest to these bulletins. Mrs. Blanche McClenehan suggested that perhaps occasional contests could be held, open to the young people and in which sketches of family groups or local historical events of the family could be written in essay form, and the winning essay be published and a modest cash prize awarded. Suggestions were also made that the younger folk be asked what they would like to see published in our bulletins.

f. Suggestion was made by several that the Cody Family Photograph Album, prepared and exhibited at many of the pre-war reunions by Past President Frederick C. Cody of Cleveland, Ohio, be revived and enlarged.

11. The following votes of thanks were passed:

To Mr. and Mrs. George McKinley Cody and their family for their capable handling of local arrangements for the reunion.

To the ladies of the Oddfellows-Rebecca Club of Oberlin for their fine services in providing the use of the Hall and the evening dinner.

To the Burlington Railroad for their generosity in conveying to the Cody Family and the Buffalo Bill Memorial Association, the old boyhood home of Colonel William F. Cody.

To the Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody and his wife, Ella Jean Cody, for their services rendered during the past year.

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 6.30 P.M.

Dinner was served in the basement of the Hall by the ladies of the Odd-fellows-Rebecca Lodge. The dinner party was called to order by the Master of Ceremonies, Chester W. Crouch of Columbus, Ohio. The invocation was given by Mrs. Mary Dearth of Marietta, Ohio, and followed by a piano solo by Master Roger Evan Cody, age 10. Immediately following the dinner we moved upstairs for the balance of the evening program. The opening hymn "Faith of our Fathers" was led by Miss Gara Lee Cody on the trombone. The next hour was most enjoyably spent by each one present introducing themselves; there was much good natured hilarity regarding ages, complexity of relationship and difficulty of identification among such a gathering. Master Roger Evan Cody favored us with another piano solo. Our main after dinner speaker was Edward R. Goodman of Denver, nephew of the late Colonel William F. Cody.

At some of our early reunions it was our pleasure to have with us his mother, Julia Cody Goodman, older sister of Colonel Cody, and so on this occasion it was indeed a welcome duty to greet her son, Edward R. Goodman. Mr. Goodman told us of many of his associations with Colonel Cody, of intimate family stories of his branch, and reminiscences of early days in the West. We enjoyed having him with us and hope he can come again next year. With Mrs. Elden Ray Cody at the piano we next enjoyed the singing trio of her three children, Roger, 10, Leland 6 and Connie 3. The closing hymn "Abide with Me" was led by Miss Gara Lee Cody on the trombone, followed by the Lord's Prayer and the National Anthem led by Mrs. Chester W. Crouch.

Following the above program dancing commenced in the basement of the Hall under the capable direction of Mrs. Mavis Cody Urban. The dancing attracted a fine crowd of our young folks, and many of the oldsters; everyone enjoyed it and we are grateful to the local young folk for arranging such a delightful diversion. There were modern dances and old time square dances. We found much talent in our family; Allen Richards did a masterful job in calling off the square dances; George McKinley Cody showed himself a wizard on the violin and Willard Kinnamon an expert pianist; plenty of good material on that dance floor for a Cody Family Orchestra.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 11.00 A.M.

About eighty members of our family joined in the morning service of the Federated Baptist Church of Oberlin, and thoroughly enjoyed the message of the Rev. D.S. Hobbs. This is a delightful little church and we received a warm welcome from Mr. Hobbs. His text was taken from the parable of the Prodigal Son, but emphasizing the importance of the "Elder Brother". We appreciate the courtesy of Mr. Hobbs and his congregation in having us worship with them.

Following the church service we motored to the "Pine Cone Inn" where luncheon was served. Chester W. Crouch was the able Master of Ceremonies and called on Master Roger Evan Cody to offer grace.

Our Poet Laureate, Dr. Allison K. Walker of Buchtel, Ohio, had composed a poem on the occasion of the Ohio Regional Reunion of August 8th. En route to Oberlin, Dr. Walker prepared another. He circulated copies at the luncheon, and we feel there is so much worth while in these verses that we publish a combination of both; the thoughts expressed are applicable to both the Ohio and Kansas reunions:

1  
 Today new cousins we shall meet  
 And with handshakes we will greet  
 So may we more of the family know  
 As years pass by and we older grow

4  
 Some have come from miles away  
 To be here for this Cody Day  
 So may each feel it well worth while  
 And well repaid for every mile

2  
 'Tis fine to meet the cousins again  
 As we only meet just now and then  
 So may we have a glorious day  
 Before we part and go our way

5  
 Some of our family not here today  
 Since our last meeting have passed away  
 And may we meet that Heavenly band  
 When we depart from this earthly land

3  
 Glad that so many are here today  
 And for recollections we'll take away  
 May we keep going, year after year  
 And our reunions will grow more dear

6  
 Soon with handclasps Adieu we'll say  
 And be starting on our homeward way  
 Rejoicing and loyal to the Cody band  
 May we say God bless you and our land.

Following Dr. Walker's poem, competition was invited for the following prizes donated by the Board of Directors and awarded as follows:

Oldest gentleman present	Dr. Allison K. Walker Buchtel, Ohio	75 years
Oldest lady present	Mrs. Albert Alden Knapp Wichita, Kansas	66 years
Longest married couple	Mr. & Mrs. B.A. Holliday Cedar Bluffs, Kansas	49 years
Latest married couple	Mr. and Mrs. Bryce Ekins Cody Sutherland, Nebraska	8 months

Oldest person bearing the surname CODY	Elmer Kent Cody Paxton, Nebraska	54 years
Person attending from the greatest distance	Mrs. Mary Dearth Marietta, Ohio	
Person attending greatest number of annual reunions (Board of Directors debarred)	Chester W. Crouch Columbus, Ohio	Nine
Youngest boy present	Larry Michael Beers Hoisington, Kansas	6 weeks
Youngest girl present	Marcia Kay Holliday Cedar Bluffs, Kansas	5½ months
Youngest child bearing the surname CODY	Connie Cody Oberlin, Kansas	3 years
Largest family present	Mr. and Mrs. Elden Ray Cody and three children Oberlin, Kansas	5

Following the luncheon many cars made the drive through Sappa Creek State Park, 480 acres, of which our local host, George McKinley Cody, is Superintendent, then returning to the "Pine Cone Inn" for farewells.

And so ended the 20th. Annual Reunion of the Cody Family - undoubtedly one of our best reunions; we know that everyone enjoyed it and the new diversions provided. It should be an incentive for future reunions, so let us plan now for ON TO OREGON IN 1949.

Harry Arthur Cody  
703 Watson St.  
Ripon, Wisconsin

PRESIDENT

Ernest William Cody  
413 Ridout St. North  
London, Ontario

SECRETARY-TREASURER

HAVE YOU BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, OR CHANGES OF ADDRESS TO REPORT IN YOUR GROUP?  
IF SO, PLEASE REPORT THEM PROMPTLY.