



Genealogical and Historical

OF THE INTERNATIONAL

Review

Cody Family
Association

VOLUME 54, NO. 2

JULY, 2025

2026 ICFA REUNION

June
16-18

Philip & Martha
1698



NEW ENGLAND
Beverly, Massachusetts

Save the Date! We'll be meeting June 16 - 18, 2026 for our International Cody Family Reunion in New England!

In our December 2024 issue, we called upon our membership to choose between Cody, WY and New England as the site of our 2026 ICFA Reunion. Our membership responded and the voting was very close, but in the end, New England won!

Why New England? Well, Salem is where our Philip and Martha came to work in the flourishing cod-fishing business of Philip English, a wealthy merchant and Jersey native. They worked off the terms of their contract and used the money they saved to buy their [Beverly Homestead](#) and start their own lives in the New World. Real estate prices in the Channel Islands were sky-high because of overpopulation and New England offered better economic opportunities for the young couple and their growing family.

But there were obstacles to overcome. During the [Salem Witchcraft Hysteria](#), Philip English and his wife had been indicted, arrested and jailed in Boston for trial until their employees rescued them and they [sailed to New York](#). Two years later, exonerated from the charges, they returned to Salem to find that their neighbors had looted their home and Philip's wife Mary tragically died in childbirth soon after.

There was also a language barrier because our Philip and Martha spoke [Norman French](#), the language of their birth, and since England was usually [at war with France](#), Francophones were regarded with suspicion in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Philip and Martha must have been warned about this prejudice, because they changed their surname from '[Le Cody](#)' to '[Cody](#)' to sound more English and "fit in."

Additionally, in Puritan New England, land-holding was [restricted to church members](#). [Rev. John Hale](#), an Expert Witness at the Witchcraft Trials, was Minister of the Church in Beverly. But, when Philip and Martha were accepted as congregants, the Edwards family of Wenham sold them a house and 6 acres of land on Grover St.

It wasn't long before their neighbors petitioned for a [Second Parish](#) and began soliciting Philip and Martha as congregants. They joined this new congregation and enjoyed the shorter walk to Worship and Lessons. Eventually, a notice appeared, tacked to the Meetinghouse door, calling for settlers in Hopkinton. Philip and Martha, along with their grown children discussed the prospects of a 100-acre farm and made the decision to migrate.

Our 2026 Reunion Itinerary - Chebacco Day!

From time to time our immigrant ancestors, Philip and Martha, came to [Chebacco](#) and hayed their parcel of the nearby [salt marsh](#) to feed their livestock. They likely poled a raft from the [Town Landing](#) to their parcel, cut the hay with scythes and sickels, and rafted it over to the Landing. There, this valuable commodity would be unloaded and carted back to Beverly.

Imagine the scene, our Philip, with sons John, Joseph and Isaac, unloading their harvest after a hot day's work, when young Mary Martin, caught Joseph's eye. She was a familiar figure, the daughter of Abraham and Sarah Martin, who lived just up the hill. Decades before, along with a few neighbors, the Martins had petitioned for a [Chebacco Meetinghouse](#). Once jailed for their acts, they became respected pillars of the community.



[The 1st Meetinghouse was built by the women of Chebacco.](#)



[Chebacco's Old Burying Ground is close to the church.](#)



[We'll visit the waymarker at the Rev. John Wise House.](#)

The Martins helped build the stone wall that still protects the Old Burying Ground. Our Joseph and Mary were married by Rev. John Wise. Then they too, helped maintain that stone wall.

Rev. Wise was the [first pastor of Chebacco Parish](#). He preached against the [Witchcraft Delusion](#), for [smallpox inoculation](#) and for the [Andros Rebellion of 1689](#). His famous slogan, ["No taxation without representation"](#) was echoed by the Revolution of 1776. He and his wife are [interred](#) in the Old Burying Ground.

As gentleman farmers, the [Cogswells](#) helped out by donating land for the Meetinghouse and Old Burial Ground. They were shipwrecked in Maine on the passage over from England and were granted land in Ipswich as compensation for their loss.



[Tour the Essex Shipbuilding Museum.](#)



[We'll browse the Museum of Folk Art at Cogswell's Grant.](#)



[Along the way, we'll have lunch at Woodman's!](#)

Our 2026 Reunion Itinerary - Beverly Day!

For generations, Channel Islanders prospered by [cod-fishing](#) off Newfoundland. About 1690, [Philip English](#) of Jersey and Salem recruited our Philip and Martha to work in his cod-fishing business. While under contract to Mr. English, they lived in his Salem household as servants. Our Philip sailed up to Cape Sable to gather cod in baskets and Martha salted and dried the cod for export. As the term of their contract drew to a close, they dreamed of having their own household.

House prices in Jersey and Salem were too high, so they looked across Bass River to [Beverly](#) and applied for membership in the new [1st Parish](#). As Anglicans, they were interviewed, confessed and were accepted by [Rev. Hale's](#) congregation. In 1698, they used their earnings to buy a house on a [6-acre lot on Grover St.](#)



[The 1st Parish welcomed our Philip and Martha to Beverly.](#)

They were greeted by their next-door neighbors, the [Woodens](#), in-laws of the [Balch family](#) who lived nearby. Likewise, the [Codys](#) greeted the [Dike family](#) after the Woodens moved away.

Living on Grover St., Philip and Martha kept sheep, [knitted the wool](#) and [pressed cider](#) from their fruit trees while they raised their 7 children. They prospered, so Philip retired from cod-fishing, bought a [woodlot in Wenham](#) and some [salt marsh in Chebacco](#). Sadly, their son [Abraham](#), age 13, died in 1714.

By 1716, the 2nd Parish was established, [whose boundaries](#) included Philip and Martha's homestead, so they joined the 2nd Parish and worshipped there. Martha's Letter of Dismissal was the clue that first led our [historians](#) to Beverly from Hopkinton.



[We'll tour the home of Rev. John Hale and his son Robert.](#)



[We'll tour the John Balch House on Dodge St.](#)



[We'll pay our respects at the Dodge's Row Cemetery.](#)



[We'll visit Philip and Martha's 6-acre Beverly Homestead on Grover St., between Thaxton Rd. and Old Planter's Rd.](#)



History Comes Alive at the Rough Riders Reunion!

In celebration of the 1st U.S. Cavalry & Spanish American War Veterans, the town of Oyster Bay sponsored a Memorial Day party! With special appearances by [Bill Sommer](#) as Colonel Roosevelt, [Pat Falci](#) as General 'Fighting' Joe Wheeler, [Austin Artz](#) as Lt. Quentin Roosevelt, [Seth Henderson](#), ICFA Secretary Allan Cody and [Jack 'Massee' McKinley](#), who sang the *Star Spangled Banner*, we paid tribute to our brave servicemen.

Events commenced Saturday morn, with food trucks and booths featuring TR-themed goods, live music and Civil War re-enactors. After an antique carriage demonstration, we gathered at the stage to accept awards on behalf of our Spanish American War Veterans, Pvt. Arthur Cody, Capt. Dr. Edgar Barnes and Cpl. Myron Cody. [Town Supervisor Joe Saladino's](#) inspiring speech was capped by a [Civil War Parrot Cannon](#) firing, but the grounds were too wet to permit cavalry charge re-enactments.

We also visited the museum at [Sagamore Hill](#), Roosevelt's summer home, cruised Oyster Bay on the Sloop [Christeen](#), told war stories at Teddy's Bully Bar, heard lectures about the Rough Riders and toured the [Matinecock Masonic Lodge](#). The weekend climaxed with the Whiskey Tasting, sponsored by [Rich Stabile of Long Island Spirits](#).

Our hearty thanks go to Brian Tadler and the [Friends of Sagamore Hill](#), a heritage-minded group of volunteers who team up to promote TR's legacies and forge an on-going partnership with the [Sagamore Hill National Historic Site](#) to preserve, enhance and protect his memory in Oyster Bay, NY!



[Michael Bodor](#) prepares to take a tintype photo.



[Lt. Roosevelt](#), [Gen. Wheeler](#), [Town Councilor Andrew Monteleone](#), [Town Supervisor Joe Saladino](#), [Col. Roosevelt](#), [Town Clerk Richard LaMarca](#) & [ICFA Secretary Allan Cody](#)



[Allan](#) accepts an award for our [Cody veterans service!](#)



The Civil War Parrot Cannon speaks!



[Sagamore Hill](#), TR's summer home.

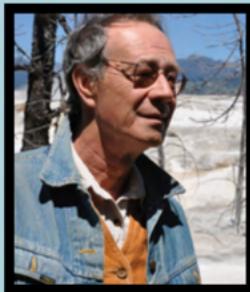


The Whiskey Tasting at Matinecock Lodge!



CODY KIDS CORNER

Volume 12 July 2025
By Kellie Cody Edwards -145/44331
Cody, WY Ambassador



Meet Allan Cody and His Song About Buffalo Bill

Our cousin, Allan Cody, pictured left wanted to share the story of Buffalo Bill's adventurous life in a fun and musical way — so he wrote a special song called "Ballad of Buff'la Bill."

What is a Ballad?

A [ballad](#) is a type of song that tells a story. Long ago, before people had radios or the internet, people would write and sing ballads to share news and stories about heroes, adventures, or important events. Ballads usually have a catchy tune and simple words, so they are easy to remember and sing along with.

Allan Cody and His Music

Allan Cody plays "Americana" style music with a couple of friends. Americana music is a mix of different American roots music styles, like folk, country, and blues. One of the folk songs Allan and his friends often play is "[Jesse James](#)," a song about the famous outlaw. In fact, "Jesse James" was one of the first songs Allan tried to learn on guitar way back when!

Allan decided to use the music from "Jesse James" as a foundation for his own lyrics that would honor three Wild West heroes: Wild Bill Hickok, Texas Jack, and Buffalo Bill. He wanted to write a tribute to these men for the wonderful and heroic things they did.

The Art of Songwriting

To help him write the song, Allan bought a rhyming dictionary to help with the lyrics. He also developed a special method to organize his thoughts: he outlined Buffalo Bill's life and thought carefully about words and expressions that would fit. Knowing what you want to say is half the battle of writing a song.

Understanding the song's rhythm and rhyming scheme is probably the other half of writing a good song. After that, it takes hard work to put the lines together and not give up when you get stuck.



ca. 1873

The photo that inspired the Trilogy:

"Out on the Western Plains"

Pictured from left to right:

Wild Bill Hickok, Texas Jack & Buffalo Bill

The "Ballad of Buff'la Bill" took Allan about two months to finish! Making up new lyrics to old songs was actually a habit he learned from a childhood friend, who had learned it from his mother.

The Trilogy: "Out on the Western Plains"

The "Ballad of Buff'la Bill" is part of a group of three songs called a trilogy, which means three connected stories. The trilogy is called "Out on the Western Plains." Allan was inspired by the photo above and wrote a song about each hero. The song titles are "[Wil' Bill](#)", "[Texas Jack](#)" and "[Buff'la Bill](#)". Songs like Allan Cody's ballads help us remember important people and exciting times from history. They keep stories alive and make us feel like we are riding along on the adventure!

Next time you hear a ballad, think about the story it tells — and maybe even imagine yourself out on the western plains with Buffalo Bill and his friends!

Click on photo below to listen to Allan Cody's "The Ballad of Buff'la Bill "



Parents & Grandparents,

Gather your children and join together for a good ol' family sing-a-long!

They call him Buff'la Bill
His family called him 'Will'
At home so long ago

Once he got his start
He took the path with heart
Where ever it would go

Then came that fateful day
When Daddy went away
Willie knew what path to take

Joined a wagon train
To cross the barren plain
Bound for Great Salt Lake

Asked the wagon master
To put him on the raster
That was Willie's plan

Momma said ok
And from that very day
Willie became a man

Oh the sights he did see
Osage and Com-man-chee
Where they reigned supreme

Willie found his happy home
Where the buffalo roam
Beyond his wild-est dream!

**Texas Jack and Wild Bill
Still ride with Buff'la Bill
Back in the saddle a-gain**

**They all can still be found
Tentin' on the old campground
Out on the western plain!**

In the big contest
To see who was the best
Buff'la hunter in the land.

When sundown come around
Our Willie won renown
Buff'la Bill became his brand!

Buff'la Bill, Buff'la Bill
Never missed never will
So they pays his Buff'la Bill.

That's what his sisters sang
Them and their girlish gang
As angels, they sing it still.

They call him Buff'la Bill
Bet you a dollar bill
Everyone knows his name.

He's been to every town
He's traveled all around
That's how he built his fame.

The public came to see
His western pagentry
Perform to great ac-claim!

That wild and wooly west
The one he loved the best
Will nev-er be the same.

**Texas Jack and Wild Bill Still
ride with Buff'la Bill Back in
the saddle a-gain**

**They all can still be found
Tentin' on the old campground
Out on the western plain!**



Singing History: Sacred Heart Students Bring “The Ballad of Buff’la Bill” to Life!

CODY, WYOMING — The students at [Sacred Heart Catholic Cooperative](#) aren’t just learning about history — they’re stepping into it, singing it, and even performing it! This year, a group of talented homeschool students from the cooperative performed Allan Cody’s, “The Ballad of Buff’la Bill”, during their annual spring drama production.

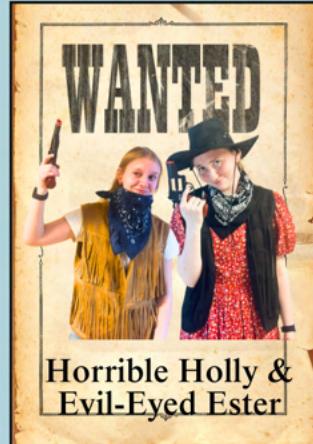
Located in Cody, Wyoming, [Sacred Heart Catholic Cooperative](#) is a homeschool program directed by Kellie Cody Edwards, that offers a rich, classical Christian education that makes history the centerpiece of learning. Students explore subjects through a four-year cycle of historical eras, helping them make deep connections between events, people, and ideas.

Each spring, [Sacred Heart](#) celebrates what they’ve learned with a full-stage drama production. This year’s play was all about the modern era of American history, focusing on westward expansion, [Manifest Destiny](#), and the famous [Oregon Trail](#). The production also featured Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show, traveling by train to perform in Omaha. Buffalo Bill, was played by Andrew Edwards (145/443313), the 3x great grandson of William F. Cody.



Having the students sing the toe-tapping tune, “The Ballad of Buff’la Bill”, made the performance even more special. With energy, spirit, and strong storytelling, they brought Buffalo Bill’s adventures to life through acting and music.

Drama is one of the most beloved traditions at [Sacred Heart](#). Singing, acting, and storytelling gives students the chance to not just learn about history, but to live it.



Outlaw, Horrible Holly, played by Kylie Edwards (145/443314)

The “Buff’la Bill Ballad” project is a great example of a collaboration, which means people working together to create something special. When we collaborate, we each bring our unique talents and ideas, and that makes the final result even better than if we did it alone. In this project, Dwight Cody had a vision for sharing Allan’s song with you Cody Kids. Allan, Kellie, and Kevin Cody all helped made the vision come true by sharing their skills and working as a team! I hope you enjoyed singing along!



A Tribute to Sarah K. “Sally” Chandler 148/2A22

Reprinted from the [New Castle News, June 18, 2025](#), with our Editor’s Notes in *italics*.

Edinburg - Sarah “Sally” Katherine Chandler, 81, of Edinburg passed away June 11, 2025, at her residence after a long illness.

She was born April 22, 1944, in New Castle, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Karl H. and Gertrude Wheaton Sr. Sally was a graduate of Mohawk High School and New Castle Business College. She was a lifelong member of the International Cody Family Association and enjoyed reading their newsletters online.

Sally is survived by her sister-in-law, Sandi Chandler; nieces, Megan and Heather; nephew, Noah; great-niece, Alina; and her friend, Carly Thomas.

In addition to her parents, Sally was preceded in death by her brother, Karl H. Chandler Jr.; and sister, Carolyn L. Chandler. *Sarah was a grand-daughter of our [Lindus and Amelia of Cleveland, OH](#) and [Cody Villa, Babson Park, FL](#).*

Sally wanted us to thank her friends and neighbors, Tom and Gloria Hahn; her home care aide, Betty Thompson; and Home Helpers Agency for all their support and kindness.

No formal services will be held (*ashes scattered*). Online condolences can be given at [keystonefuneralservices.com](#). To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Sarah, please visit our [floral store](#).

Thanks for Your Support!

Here's a tribute to those who contributed so far this year!

Won't you please consider paying [Dues](#) or making a [Donation](#)?

ACTIVE MEMBERS

FOF Roland Garrison
FOF L & J Schoch
FOF Brian Tadler
117/11351 Barbara Cowell
117/11356 Cynthia Murphy
119/12121 Robert Metcalf
119/12311 Bob Metcalf Sr.
128/11712 Howard Barbaree
128/A4453 T & D Sage

130/61212 Bruce Cody	206/72221 P & K Plautz
130/65431 Gordon O'Neill	256/3131 Sharon Walters
132/B271 Susan Okey	258/2441 Deborah Gould
133/15131 Mark June	261/1431 Robert Cody
142/42523 L. Schmelzle	263/726131 Julie Mullins
145/44332 Kevin Cody	266/22231 Jeanette Meusch
148/2722 Mary M. Cody	266/272211 E. Capps-Conkle
148/2A22 Sarah Chandler	266/62241 R. Appleby
148/3422 Allan Cody	266/622111 Jeff Gurney
172/83222 Scott Cody	270/51713 Doug Bosner
172/832221 Eliz. Cody	
180/17115 William Cody	
184/13411 Kathy Jordan	
184/134111 Alexis Jordan	
184/134112 Cody Jordan	
184/13412 Pat Rackouski	
184/2811 Dix Martin	
184/2811 Dix Martin	140/211221 Larry Benson

DONORS

FOF Roland Garrison
148/2722 Mary M. Cody
172/832221 E. Cody
184/2811 Dix Martin
140/211221 Larry Benson

Milestones

Births:

117/11352313 Averie Marie Lou Barr b Potsdam NY 10/4/2024
266/21481532 Aleister Dean Schliefer b Clinton or Sedalia MO 1/6/2025

Deaths:

130/22252 Hallie Celina Myhre d Bellevue WA 2/17/2025 bur Acacia Mem. Park Seattle
145/4431 William Cody Garlow d Cody WY 4/5/2025 bur Riverside Cemetery Cody WY
172/275C Elmer Charles Lewis m1 Marylee June Cross Stephens d Tyler TX 3/10/2025
bur Whitehouse TX div
248/13322 Carman Thornton Grasby m1 London ON 1/13/1951 Helen June Gwalchmai d
St Marys ON 1/7/2025 bur Mount Pleasant Cemetery London ON
248/5651 Harley George Forden d Kitchener ON 7/25/2024
266/214815 Jacqueline Louise Lubbert d 6/13/2024

Marriages: No reported marriages.



Philip 148's Moccasin, exhibited at LeClaire, IA's Buffalo Bill Museum.

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Dwight Cody, Vice President
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Dwight Cody, Treasurer
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Darcey Zumwalt,
DAR Consultant

Special Thanks to Kellie Edwards
for her Cody Kids Corner!

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



OF THE INTERNATIONAL
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Video Reviews



John C. Reilly is Buffalo Bill in a picturesque tale of forbidden love in the Italian countryside.

[Click here for a preview!](#)



CLICK ON EACH EPISODE TO STREAM IT!

1. The Greenhorn	6. On the Hunt
2. The Frenchman	7. Bandits
3. Rustlers	8. Crossroads
4. The Stranglers	9. The Roundup
5. Desperate Measures	10. A Man for All Seasons

Testa o Croce? (Heads or Tails?) by Alessio Rigo De Righi & E. Matteo Zoppis, narration by [John C. Reilly as Buffalo Bill](#).

At the beginning of the 20th century, [Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show arrives in Rome](#) to sell Italians the myth of the frontier, with blanks fired from rifles and cowboy shows. Here, in the setting of a legendary bronc riding competition between cowboys and Italian [butteri](#) (cattle herders), Rosa, the young wife of the local landowner, falls in love with Santino, the buttero who wins the challenge. Following her husband's murder, Rosa and Santino flee together, but justice, as always, is sold to the highest bidder, and a large bounty is placed on Santino's head. With [Buffalo Bill](#) on their trail, Rosa dreams of America, the real one, not the one in the advertising posters with bison, but her dream will have to reckon with reality. Because, as in every respectable western ballad, fate flips the coin. And often, the truth remains buried underground.

The film is the story of Santino and Rosa's love and their desperate flight to nowhere seen through the ironic and deforming mirror of oral history in which the truth is always elsewhere, the facts never coinciding with their narrative. A murder makes Santino a hero to some, and an outlaw to others. Rosa is the only one who cares about the truth of the story, her story, until she realizes that this is not that important to others, because no one believes her. Rosa projects - even in a dreamlike way - her desires onto Santino: to love but also to hate, to emancipate herself, to escape and reinvent herself in escape.

Reprinted from *Cowboys & Indians* magazine, April 10, 2024 by Joe Leydon

This new INSP series [Elkhorn](#) finds a young Theodore Roosevelt testing his mettle in Dakota frontier territory.

"So what's a New York reformer doing in the Dakota Territory?" Good question. Theodore Roosevelt ([Mason Beals](#)), the twenty-something fellow facing this query by an inquisitive reporter, is indeed far from home and out of his element. He abandoned his comfortable life among the social elite class and his rising career as a crusading New York State assemblyman after enduring two devastating tragedies — the [deaths of his wife and mother](#) within hours of each other on Feb. 14, 1884. When we're introduced to him in the first episode of [Elkhorn](#), the new western series premiering April 11 on INSP, the man who would eventually become our 26th U.S. president is keeping a relatively low profile in the frontier town of [Medora](#) as he methodically plans to establish and operate a cattle ranch — and more or less reinvent himself as a cowboy.

Throughout most of its 10-episode first season, [Elkhorn](#) will focus primarily on young Roosevelt's early days in the Dakota Territory as he struggles to maintain the [cattle ranch](#) that gives the series its name. "Most Americans are familiar with the man who charged up San Juan Hill with his [Rough Riders](#) and later became the country's youngest president," says Craig Miller, Vice President of Original Programming for INSP. "But few have heard of Roosevelt's adventurous and life-altering years on the frontier after the unimaginable events that befell the future iconic leader as a 25-year-old."

In Memoriam...

Reprinted from the **CODY ENTERPRISE**

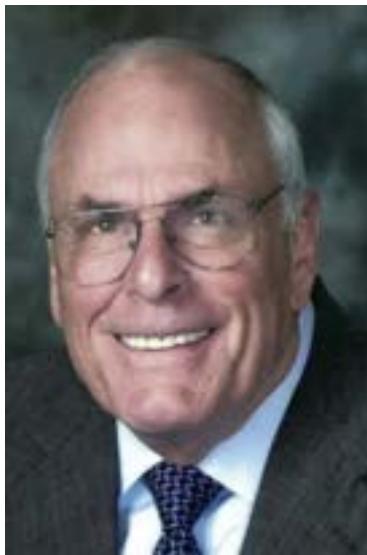
April 7, 2025: Beloved father and grandfather, William (Bill) Cody Garlow (82), passed away on April 5, 2025, at the Spirit Mountain Hospice House in Cody, Wyoming.

Bill was born on May 17, 1942, in Mineral Wells, Texas, and was the eldest son to William J., and Dorothy Garlow. At the time of his birth, Bill's father was stationed at Camp Wolters. After World War II, the family, then five, moved to Cody, Wyoming, where they resided for five years and were joined by the birth of Bill's youngest brother Barry. Bill spent a winter on the [B4 ranch](#) with his Uncle Fred and Aunt Peg and a summer on the Switchback Ranch, before the family moved back to Dallas, Texas. Bill's parents divorced when he was in 6th grade, and Bill moved with his mother and three brothers to Florida, where he completed junior and senior high school in Clearwater and Winter Haven. Although his childhood was not without obstacles, Bill was ambitious from a young age, and his work ethic provided him with many achievements. Bill's paper route as an adolescent even allowed him to pay for his own orthodontics and his Triumph motorcycle.

Bill attended Southern Methodist University, where he joined the Delta Chi Fraternity and earned a degree in accounting in 1965. Through college, he worked in the oil fields and later at the Dallas CPA firm Alford, Meroney and Co., where he remained employed after college until he began his military service.

Bill was a patriot and proud service member. He attended Navy Officer Candidate School and communications school in Newport, RI. Bill served as a communications officer on the [USS John W. Weeks](#), a destroyer, traveling around the Horn of Africa to the Middle East in 1967. Following the Weeks' return to Norfolk, Bill applied to be an Officer in Charge of a Fast Patrol Craft, better known as a [Swift Boat](#), and arrived in Vietnam in 1968. He was released from active duty after his return from Vietnam in 1969, but remained in the reserves for 10 years when he retired as a Lt. Commander. For his service, Bill was awarded the [Navy Commendation Medal](#) with Combat V, the [Purple Heart](#), the [Combat Action Ribbon](#), the [Presidential Unit Citation](#), the [Navy Unit Commendation](#), and other various service medals.

After his return from Vietnam, Bill rejoined Alford, Meroney and Co. for three years before joining Bland, Garvey and Co. as one of four partners. Bill moved to Cody, WY in 1981, and invested with his brother Kit and another partner in the Best Western Sunrise, the Best Western Sunset, the Canyon Cafeteria property (later the Sunset House), and a property in Sheridan. The partnership dissolved, and Bill became sole owner of the Best Western Sunset and the Sunset House. Bill expanded the Best Western Sunset, developed Lindsay Lane, and in 2012, opened the Best Western Ivy and 8th Street Restaurant.



William Cody Garlow
1942 - 2025

Bill loved the hospitality industry, and even though he was not always the best at remembering names, he cared deeply for all who worked with him over the years.

Bill met his wife Bette at [Bill Cody Ranch](#), on the North Fork of the Shoshone River, and the two married in 1982. Bill and Bette had two children, Lindsay Jo, born in 1984 and Ivy Mae, born in 1986. Bill and Bette divorced in 1988, but maintained a strong bond, with Bill often visiting Bette and the girls in Fairfax, VA or traveling together as a family. This continued until Bette's passing in 2003 at the age of 49.

Bill had an adventurous spirit, and he loved to travel. He told many stories about visiting Ethiopia, Somalia, Pakistan, and Australia during his military service, as well as adventures he took after completion of his service to Central and South America. He instilled the same adventurous spirit in his daughters, traveling often with his family to Europe, Southeast Asia, South America, Africa, and beyond. Running low on new places to visit, he planned family vacations to Cuba and through the Panama Canal.

Bill never took life too seriously, he loved motorcycles, romantic comedies, presidential biographies, 1950s music, and most of all, ice cream.

With the birth of Lotte Jo in 2022, Bill was proud to say, "I first became grandfather at 80." Lindsay and Lotte joined Bill in Cody in February 2023, to assist him as his health declined, with Steve and Ivy visiting frequently and enjoying many hours of Rummikube and Jeopardy. Lotte kept Bill persevering, and his love for her showed in their gentle interactions.

Bill loved Park County, WY, and generously donated time, financial contributions, and attendance at fundraising events to many community causes. He served on the [Cody Country Chamber](#) Board of Directors from 1983 to 1986 and was President in 1985. He was a Trustee of the [Buffalo Bill Center of the West](#) from 1984 to 2019 (Emeritus through his passing), and Chair of the Buffalo Bill Advisory Board for about 20 years. Bill served on the [Board of Pinnacle Bank Wyoming](#) from 1985 to 2019. He was active with the American Legion. Bill was a devoted member of the [Christ Episcopal Church](#) congregation, serving for many years as lead usher.

He is survived by daughters Lindsay Jo Garlow of Lakewood, CO, and Ivy Mae Garlow (Steve Nicholson) of Missoula, MT, granddaughter Charlott (Lotte) Jo, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Bill was proceeded in death by his parents William J. "Bill" and Dorothy "Dottie," his three younger brothers John "Jack" Garlow, Kit Cody, and Barry Cody, and ex-wife Bette Garlow. Services were held at Christ Episcopal Church in Cody, WY, with interment at Riverside Cemetery. Make your memorial donations to [Crisis Intervention Services](#) or the [Buffalo Bill Center of the West](#).

In Memoriam...

Reprinted from the
March 18, 2025 **CODY ENTERPRISE**

“Farewell to Al” By Lew Freedman

Former U.S. Sen. Alan K. Simpson, who charmed Wyoming and the nation while befriending presidents in a lifetime of public service, always keeping a twinkle in his eye and a maverick nature in his heart, [died Friday, March 14, in Cody](#) of complications from serious circulation problems in his feet and legs. He was 93.

A prominent local, state and national figure for decades, the lanky 6-foot-7 [Simpson](#), an artful story-teller who sometimes employed salty language, embodied an old-school Republican politician who got along with congress members on both sides of the aisle. He could be progressive and conservative, though at all times an entertaining speaker to audiences who appreciated his plain-spoken platform. Simpson seemed to thrive on stories of reckless boyhood scrapes, some where his father, former Gov. Milward Simpson, had to play taskmaster, before he settled down and competed for the basketball and football teams at the University of Wyoming and then married Ann in 1954 and raised three children.

To him, [wit was essential](#). “I found that a sense of humor was also vital in my political life. It sure throws off the opposition. Adversaries think, ‘Good God, what’s this nut doing trying to tell us another story?’”

The stories carried Simpson into office where his serious side emerged, if in disguise, working on matters of import for the country such as Cold War international relations and immigration policies, gay rights and was pro-choice.

After serving 12 years in the Wyoming Legislature, Simpson spent 18 years in the U.S. Senate. He was also an attorney and past chairman of the board of trustees of Buffalo Bill Historical Center before it changed to Center of the West.

Alan Kooi Simpson was born Sept. 2, 1931, in Denver. His middle name was his mother Lorna’s maiden name. His father Milward served as governor of Wyoming and in the U.S. Senate representing the state.

Al Simpson was [raised in Cody](#). As an illustration of the family’s deep roots in Wyoming – the first Simpson in the Territory being Alan’s great-grandfather in 1862 – he recalled his aunts telling dinner-table tales of when Butch Cassidy stopped by for a Christmas meal in 1883. The famous outlaw was not yet being heavily pursued for his deviances from the law. “They liked him,” Simpson said. Still, his grandfather Will, a prosecutor, once put Cassidy in jail.

Simpson has portrayed himself as somewhat of a juvenile delinquent whose mischief as a youth was reckless, though not the acts of a truly dangerous criminal.



Senator Alan Simpson
1923 - 2025

Al characterized firing guns at mailboxes as “just stupid.” Later, in Congress, Simpson spoke of the incident when legislators were considering a law related to juvenile crime, saying a person is not necessarily defined by what he does at 16 or 18.

Al graduated from Cody High School with the class of 1949. By that time he was aware of a young lady from Greybull named Ann Schroll. Simpson said he spotted her at a basketball game and told a friend, “Look at that gal.” Simpson was at his football weight at the time, roughly 250 pounds.

It wasn’t until later in Laramie that he encountered her again. Al made a better impression this time around. They stayed together through Ann teaching school for a year in Cheyenne and Al completing college. The Simpsons married June 21, 1954, as Al was beginning a military commitment that took the young couple to Fort Benning, Ga., and then Germany, until 1956.

Simpson earned his law degree from the University of Wyoming, and the Simpsons had their first child, Bill, in 1957. Colin and Susan followed. Typically, Simpson employed humor to describe the success of their [long love affair](#).

Simpson spent more than 12 years in the Wyoming Legislature before pursuing a [U.S. Senate seat](#) from the Cowboy State in 1978 and was sworn into office Jan. 23, 1979. Almost immediately after his arrival in D.C., Simpson drew attention for his unorthodox methods, often defined by his jokes. Simpson, it was said, was “one of those refreshing breezes” in the halls of Congress. Simpson said he was just being himself.

In his 2019 speech to the Bohemian Club, Simpson repeated his famous wisdom, “If you have integrity, [nothing else matters](#) and if you don’t have integrity, nothing else matters.” That is a precept Simpson tried to follow during his career in politics.

After his time in the Senate, Simpson taught classes at the University of Wyoming, including a political science course, he also taught at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and again practiced law in Cody.

In 2010, Simpson was appointed by President Barack Obama to the bipartisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform and endorsed campaign finance reform.

Simpson had joined the board of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in 1968, and served as chairman 1997-2011. Recently he became chairman emeritus of the [Buffalo Bill Center of the West](#).

Al Simpson, a legend in his time, lived a singular life of service to, and love of, Wyoming and the United States.

Editor’s note: We offer our condolences to his friends and family on the passing of this great man!

The Man The Myth The Legend

Reprinted from *Cody Living* magazine February, 2025

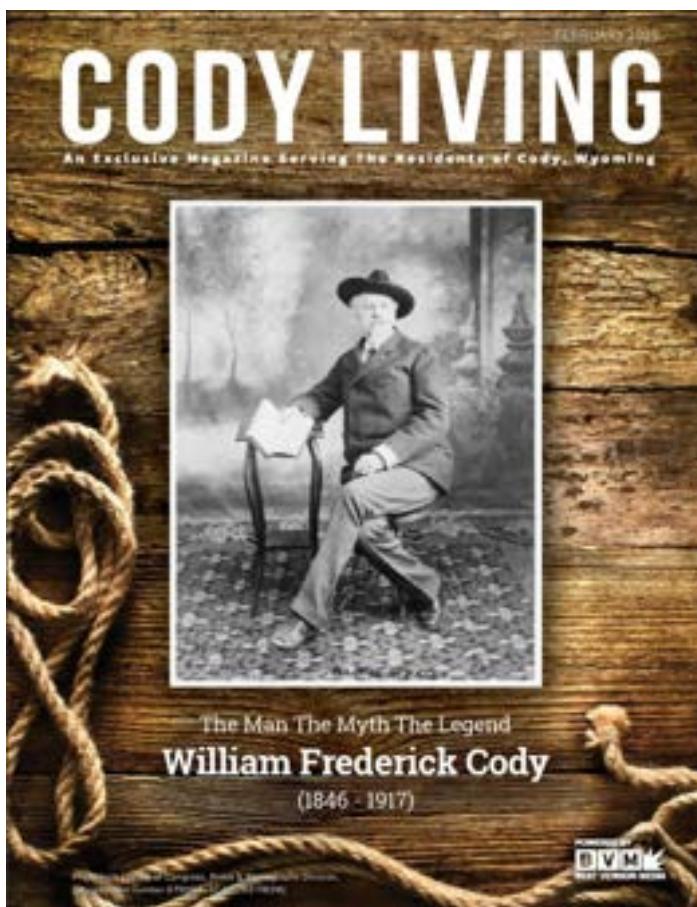
By Kamryn Bouyett kamryn.bouyett@gmail.com

“Colonel Cody calmly awaited the end that respects no man, no difference what station in life he might have enjoyed.” Published January 10, 1917, in the *Park County Enterprise* or known as the *Cody Enterprise*, an unknown writer wrote, “To write the life story of Colonel Cody would entail the use of many pages the size of this one. He has been immortalized by other and better writers, and it will be sufficient here to only briefly mention epochs in the busy life of this world-renowned man.”

William Frederick “Buffalo Bill” Cody was and still is a prominent figure known for being the greatest showman, an army scout, a buffalo hunter and a young Pony Express rider.

He was born in LeClaire Iowa on February 26, 1846. During his childhood, he moved to Leavenworth, Kansas. At the age of twelve he worked for a wagon train, headed to Fort Laramie, Wyoming. The next year he was panning for gold. Reportedly, he rode for the Pony Express by age fifteen.

“In 1872, dime novel writer Ned Buntline persuaded Cody to portray himself on stage,” according to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. “The ‘show business bug’ hit Cody and he formed his own ‘combination’ troupe the next year.”



In addition to the Buffalo Bill character, James Butler “Wild Bill” Hickok and Texas Jack Omohundro were featured. During the Plains Indians resistance, Cody intercepted a band of Cheyenne warriors, clothed in stage attire. He finished a Cheyenne warrior named Yellow Hair, depicting the star quality of Buffalo Bill, without acting.

Soon people from across the world would have the chance to experience the wild west. In 1883, Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show would star William Frederick Cody as “Buffalo Bill.” However, his name would continue to gain notoriety across the world even after his demise in 1917, as a prominent developer of Cody, Wyoming.

Talks of his return home was documented in the *Park County Enterprise* on January 2, 1902. Buffalo Bill arrived in Cody for a short period of time before returning home In North Platte for Christmas.

“The show business is no longer a pleasure for me and some time soon, the exact season I cannot specify, I shall give it up entirely to devote my self wholly to the further development of the west,” said W.F. Cody, reportedly to merchant’s.

The article continues with recent news on a wreck that happened on the Southern railway in North Carolina and an update about the ‘Rough Riders’ school he was establishing in Cody. He announced that the school would be ready for students by May.

“A singular fact again brought out by this accident is that plenty of men are willing to back the Wild West show...[but] are reluctant to back the wild west its self,” said W.F. Cody. “Some day I am going to do nothing but entertain in the west...”

W.F. Cody was betting that the wonders of Cody would swoon “young men coming from eastern colleges, with wealthy parents from whom to receive or inherit,” and others willing investors.

“Starting capital when they need it, can be shown the new country in such a way that they will become enamored of it and place their money there, when they are ready to start their business careers.”

A century later, W.F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody is still the centerpiece, the backbone, the man holding the reins of this fast-moving town, Cody, Wyoming.

The Legacy

“Indeed, it was Buffalo Bill’s own inspiration that provided the impetus that led to the founding of the Cody Family Association in 1925,” said Allan Cody, ICFA Secretary. “Today, we are proud to continue the tradition, as the International Cody Family Association with our Review.”

The International Cody Family Association (ICFA) presents family history in their “Cody Review,” a family newsletter made through Genealogical Research. As a non-profit, they

The Man The Myth The Legend... *continued*



William Frederick Cody by F.J. Hiscock, 1907

maintain the Cody family's genealogical records and make necessary updates. Their mission is to bring together families of all living descendants of Philip Le Caudey and Martha Le Brocq, who immigrated to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1698. They accept contributions to continue their efforts in building family identity by publishing their genealogy book, various announcements, notices in their Review, keeping members informed of ICFA activities and the ability to keep their websites active.

Allan Cody has been on the executive board since 2006. He accepted Terry Cody's invitation and fulfilled the role of webmaster for ICFA, designing the current website. In 2013, he started editing the ICFA's Review and was the genealogist.

"My father was a formally trained commercial artist and my mother was an executive secretary," he said. "Together, they provided many of the tools and experience that helped me acquire the skills that I later used to manage my positions at the ICFA."

For the past seven years, Allan served as President of ICFA, and had only recently been elected as Secretary. During Allan's childhood, his parents were typical for the 1950s. "Church-going, steady and well-educated."

"When I was about age nine, they showed me Sells and Weybright's book *Buffalo Bill and the Wild West*, which I read

with amazement," Allan said. "After all, Westerns were very popular on TV and I was surprised to find that my last name had a certain ring to it."

That book explained the reactions people had, when Allan went to introduce himself. Then, they would recommend *The Cody Family Massachusetts 1698* by Lydia S. Cody. At first he found it confusing.

"In it I found stories of my own Cody lineage that explained some of my ancestor's lives and inspired me to read more," he said. "That book set me to think about myself as part of something larger, beyond the narrow horizons of the New England Milltown where I was raised."

Allan explained that it was a good move made by his parents. Eventually, those books helped him understand and stick to his family identity. Instead of just going along with the crowd, being treated as "another cipher," he was interested in preserving his sense of self amongst the world. Kids want to 'fit in' and many kids have done wrong by just following the crowd, he said.

"Going along to get along. I feel privileged to provide a similar service for children and adults today."

Over time ICFA has featured various researchers and writers to work on articles that reinforce their family identity, defending William F. "Buffalo Bill" from misinformation, just as any celebrity, living or dead, Allan said. William Kevin Cody, current ICFA President produced many of those articles in the Review.

The ICFA also partners occasionally with related organizations like the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, the Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave in Golden, Colorado, the Buffalo Bill Museum in LeClaire Iowa, the Scout's Rest National Historic Site in North Platte Nebraska and the Frostproof Museum in Florida.

"Dues... are the fuel that our association uses to propel our mission," said Kevin Cody. "The rest is used in producing our reunions that require reservations, provide vendor guarantees and so on. The success of our Association depends on the work of our volunteers."

He started an online archive called the Buffalo Bill Legacy Gallery (BBLG) in 2014. He goes by his middle name Kevin, the great great grandson of William Frederick Cody.

Recently he was elected President of the ICFA, but he's been serving for twelve years.

From 1977 to 1995, Kevin was born and raised in Cody. After he graduated from Cody High School, he moved to Florida for college. He studied business and audio engineering, then moved to Georgia to work in the music business.

"The most common question I get asked is, what was it like growing up a Cody in Cody, Wyoming, especially being a direct

The Man The Myth The Legend... *continued*



Buffalo Bill demonstrating his sharpshooting skills while riding, 1907 Library of Congress

descendant of Buffalo Bill Cody, who notably founded the town in 1896,” said Kevin.

Growing up the population was less than 8,000 people, Kevin, simply stated, it was a unique and interesting experience that came with a variety of pros and cons. Being recognized by the community, brought a form of honor and respect, he continued.

“However, it was also met with many challenges including high expectations, resistance quarreled from ignorance and falsehoods, bullying and sabotage incited by jealousy and envy.”

During his adolescence his lineage felt more than a burden than an honor. Kevin was eager to get away, forge his own path, and make a name for himself. In hindsight, he wouldn’t change anything.

“Leaving Cody gave me the time I needed to heal, grow and gain a more balanced perspective on who I am and where I come from,” said Kevin. “My unique childhood created the

strong, independent person I am today and I proudly embrace my heritage along with my past Cody experiences, both good and bad.”

Kevin expressed that he is deeply honored to be involved with his family ancestry, and playing active role as the spokesperson for his great, great grandfather for the past fifteen years.

On February 6, 2010, Kevin launched the “Buffalo Bill Cody” Facebook page out of pure fascination with his great, great-grandfather and passion for the ICFA. Recognized by former ICFA president Suzanna Cody, he expanded the non-profit’s social media presence.

“Having a platform to share interesting Buffalo Bill related content to an audience is wonderful, but the most exciting and rewarding experience is the engagement and interaction amongst users,” Kevin wrote in December 2020 in the *ICFA Genealogical and Historical Review*. “I mention all of these milestones...not to seek praise or to boast upon my performance and endeavors, but to merely make the point of suggestion that none of this would have transpired had it not been for the BBC Facebook page that forged my innovative path of servitude over the past ten years.”

The First Reunion

Arthur B. Cody hosted the first reunion at the Drake Hotel in Chicago and eighteen other Cody family members voted the Cody Family Association into existence.

The Cody Family Association was founded on October 27, 1925. At eleven on the dot, President, Arthur B. Cody called the meeting to order, and gave a little introduction expressing his “warm interest and support of the movement.”

The original founders of the Cody Family Association, who were involved from the beginning, “were succeeded by a gentleman of expertise and resource,” said Allan Cody. “the ‘boy printer,’ who printed the early editions of our *Cody Family Directory* [was] Aldus M. Cody.”

Aldus added “international” to the Cody Family Association to account for members living in Canada. He also invented the Cody ID.

“Together with his brother Bob, [he] established our *Review* newsletter,” said Allan. “Aldus was active in our Association until about 2004 and twenty years later, we still miss him.”

“We approach Buffalo Bill as our cousin, as a man of our family, with all his wild and woolly friends, attributes and personal traits,” he said. “In the final analysis, William F. ‘Buffalo Bill’ Cody is simply, our cousin Will.”

For more information about ICFA, click for their website. Special thanks to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Park County Archives, the International Cody Family Association, William Kevin Cody and Allan Cody

Medals of Buffalo Bill

Many commemorative medals were created for the iconic frontiersman.

By Howard Dewald Reprinted with permission from *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association (money.org).

It was the summer of 1970, and I had just turned 12. Our family took a vacation from our home in Casper, Wyoming, to the northwest corner of the state for touring, camping, and fishing in Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons, and the town of Cody. My brother David and I had started collecting coins a couple of years earlier. When we found out about the [Cody Country Chamber of Commerce medals](#) commemorating Colonel William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody (Figure 1), sold in Cody from 1968 to 2006, it added another dimension to our trip.

At the turn of the 20th century, Buffalo Bill Cody was the most famous American in the world. He died in 1917, and in the October 1919 issue of *The Numismatist*, C. Hope of Sedalia, Missouri, placed a classified advertisement that read, “Collectors, Dealers, Attention. Wanted Old Medals in Any Metal of the noted American Showman W.F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) struck in Europe or elsewhere.” Similarly, in 1982, Ted Isler of Switzerland ran several ads for “William Cody, Alias Buffalo Bill, Wanted: All kinds of material pertaining to him. Prepayment. American bankchecks.”

Two medals of note were produced during Cody’s lifetime. The first was struck for distribution as prizes for the [Wild West 1892 tour](#) in London, England (Figure 2). This 38mm bronze or brass medal was made by Braddeley & Reynolds. The obverse features Cody’s right-facing portrait with BUFFALO BILL’S WILD WEST CO. along the upper rim. The reverse has a star in the middle surrounded by laurels, with the legend LONDON 1892 MERIT.

FIGURE 2. This medal was offered at the 1892 London, England, tour of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Co.
Actual Size: 38mm



FIGURE 1. This bronze 1970 Cody Country Chamber of Commerce specimen features the “Year of the Daisy” reverse. Actual Size: 39mm



Medals of Buffalo Bill... *continued*

An 1893 Columbian World's Fair 38mm souvenir medal (Figure 3) was made by Childs of Chicago and produced in bronze, brass, copper, and aluminum. It is cataloged as Numismatic Guaranty Company (NGC) Eglit E-361C. It depicts Buffalo Bill holding a rifle and seated on his steed with WILD WEST AT WORLDS FAIR COL. W. F. CODY (BUFFALO BILL) and 1893 along the rim. The reverse depicts a bird's-eye view of the fairgrounds with THE WORLDS COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION at top and CHICAGO, U.S.A. 1893 at bottom.

This story presents the life of Buffalo Bill Cody and a selection of commemorative medals issued in his honor.

The Life of Buffalo Bill

William Frederick Cody was born on February 26, 1846, in eastern Iowa's Scott County near the town of LeClaire to a Canadian-born laborer and farmer Isaac Martin Cody (1811-57) and former Cincinnati school teacher Mary Ann Bonsell (Laycock) Cody (1827-63). He was the middle boy of at least three sons and six daughters. (There was also an elder half-sister from his father's first marriage.) The family resided on a farm called [Napsinekee Place](#) and moved to Leavenworth, Kansas, ([with a short stay in Missouri](#)) when Cody was 8 years old. His father died in April 1857 due to an infection from a chest wound he received three years prior when he was stabbed for voicing his [opposition to slavery](#) being extended into Kansas.

To help support his family, Bill Cody began working for the firm [Russell, Majors and Waddell](#) as a horseback messenger rider, a cattle-herd driver, a wagon train freight caravan worker, and briefly as a Pony Express rider, which proved him to be a competent frontiersman. After his mother's death in 1863, he enlisted in the [Company H, 7th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry](#) in 1864. He served as a [private](#) for a year and a half and worked as a scout with General William Tecumseh Sherman.

Cody married [Louisa Maud Frederici](#) (1844-1921) from St. Louis, Missouri, on March 6, 1866, and their first child, [Arta Lucille](#), was born later that year. During 1867-68, Cody became a buffalo hunter supplying meat to the [Kansas Pacific Railroad](#) construction workers, earning him the nickname "[Buffalo Bill](#)." A U.S. Army courier from 1868 to 1872, he was assigned to be chief of scouts by General Philip Sheridan for the [5th Cavalry Regiment](#). He later served in the [Third Cavalry](#) in the Indian Wars, for which he was awarded the [Medal of Honor](#) in April 1872 for gallantry.

In 1869 [E.Z.C. Judson](#), under the pen name [Ned Buntline](#), wrote *Buffalo Bill, the King of the Border Men*, which was the first of his several hundred [dime novels](#). Cody's son [Kit Carson](#) was born in 1870, and his second daughter [Orra Maude](#) in 1872.

Late in 1872, with the encouragement of Buntline, Cody began his famous career as a [stage actor and showman](#). In 1875 the Cody family was living in Rochester, New York, and they relocated to North Platte, Nebraska, by 1882. In North Platte, he organized a July 4th celebration (later known as the Old Glory Blowout), which served as a precursor to the *Buffalo Bill's*



FIGURE 3. Featured in the [so-called dollar's](#) collection of World Columbian Exposition images, this specimen was a souvenir medal from the Wild West show at the event.

Actual Size: 38mm



Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World, founded in 1883.

The show featured horse culture with cowboys, American Plains Indians, and military performers. There were feats of skill by sharpshooters; sideshows of stagecoach robberies and Plains Indian attacks; dancing; reenactments of Pony Express riders; and mock buffalo hunts, as well as staged races, storytelling, and more. The show toured the continental United States, Canada, and 11 European countries for several years. The group performed in front of audiences that included [Queen Victoria](#) during her jubilee on May 11, 1887, and [Pope Leo XIII](#) on March 3, 1890. From April 3 to October 31, 1893, the *Wild West* competed directly with the World's Columbian Exhibition in Chicago. The show wintered on the 4,000-acre Scout's Rest Ranch near North Platte, Nebraska, with a large mansion and barn. Cody became an international celebrity and American legend. He embodied the image of American frontier culture.

Medals of Buffalo Bill... *continued*

Cody's son Kit Carson died at age 5 from scarlet fever in 1876, and his daughter Orra Maude died in 1883, the same year his youngest daughter Irma Louisa was born. Cody wrote *The Life of Hon. William F. Cody, Known as Buffalo Bill, the Famous Hunter, Scout and Guide: An Autobiography* in 1879 with F.E. Bliss as the publisher. It was dedicated to General Philip Sheridan, and many versions were reissued for 40 years. In March 1887, Cody received the rank of colonel from Governor John Thayer of Nebraska as an aide-de-camp on his staff.

In the 1890s, Cody helped found the town of [Cody, in Park County, Wyoming](#). He began an irrigation project on the Stinkingwater River (presently the Shoshone River) in the Big Horn Basin, established the [Cody Enterprise](#) newspaper, and operated the 8,000-acre TE Ranch, which grazed cattle and offered pack-horse camping, big-game hunting, and also served as a dude ranch. He also built the [Irma Hotel](#), named for his daughter, in 1902, and the establishment still operates today.

Cody sold his interest in the [Wild West show in 1909](#) to Major Gordon W. Lillie, known as Pawnee Bill. The troupe went bankrupt in 1913, and Cody began traveling with the Tammens' Sells Floto Circus. His last appearance was in 1916 with the [Miller Brothers and Arlington 101 Ranch Real Wild](#) with the theme of military preparedness. Cody appeared in the 1912 film *Life of Buffalo Bill* and produced a movie about the Indian Wars with the Essanay Film Company in 1913.

His daughter [Arta](#) (then Arta Thorp) died in 1904, and Cody unsuccessfully sued his wife for divorce the same year, but they stayed friends until his death. Several of Cody's business endeavors failed, including patent medicines, oil fields, mines, and a Cody military institute.

Cody died on January 10, 1917, from kidney failure at the home of his sister Mary Hannah "May" in Denver. Tributes were received from European royalty and President Woodrow Wilson. He was buried on [Lookout Mountain](#) in Golden, Colorado, on June 3, 1917. His daughter Irma Louise died in 1918 from influenza. His wife Louisa died in Cody, Wyoming, in 1921, and she is buried next to him.



Buffalo Bill Cody, circa 1880 by Sarony & Co.,
37 Union Square, New York

Sarony photographed Oscar Wilde, General Sherman, Mark Twain, Walt Whitman and many other celebrities.

FIGURE 4.
This nickel dollar
was issued in
Leavenworth,
Kansas, for the 1969
Buffalo Bill Days.
Actual Size: 39mm



Medals of Buffalo Bill... *continued*

Buffalo Bill's Legacy

Cody left a legacy on many fronts. He popularized the playing of “The Star-Spangled Banner” in his shows (long before it became the national anthem in 1931)—a tradition that continues in most public functions today. He was an advocate for women’s rights and equal treatment. The female employees in his shows, such as sharpshooters Annie Oakley and Calamity Jane, as well as other actors and support staff, were paid the same as their male counterparts. Despite his earlier violent struggles with Plains Indians, he featured many in his shows, such as Sitting Bull and other Lakota tribe members. As early as 1879, he advocated for ethnic and racial groups’ right to protest for fair treatment. Also, despite killing thousands of buffalo for the Union Pacific Railroad in 1867 and serving as a scout for Russian royalty on a big game hunt in 1872, he supported conservation measures and the implementation of a hunting season.

Cody was initiated into the Platte Valley Masonic Lodge Number 32 on March 6, 1870, and passed on April 2. In 1889 he was dubbed a Knight Templar. On April 4, 1894, he received the 32nd Degree Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. (When he died, he had a masonic funeral with eight pallbearers dressed in Knight Templar uniforms.)

In 1904 his Shoshone irrigation project was authorized, and construction began the next year. The Shoshone Dam opened in 1910 on the Shoshone River as the world’s tallest dam (at that time), and it was one of the earliest projects of the Bureau of Reclamation to create productive agricultural lands. Cody owned much of the land covered by the reservoir. In 1946 the dam was renamed the Buffalo Bill Dam and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. In 1973 the American Society of Civil Engineers named it a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. The Buffalo Bill State Park maintains the land around the reservoir.

In early 1917, Congress revised the standards for awarding the Medal of Honor, and medals previously awarded to civilians, or for actions that would not warrant a Medal of Honor under the new higher standards, were revoked. On February 5, 1917, only 24 days after his death, Cody’s medal as a civilian scout was rescinded. Upon later reviews that began in the late 1970s, his Medal of Honor “*for Gallantry at Platte River Nebr. Apr. 26 1872*” was restored on June 12, 1989.

A few weeks after Cody’s death, the townspeople of Cody wanted to create a tribute to their beloved namesake, and the Buffalo Bill Memorial Association was established on March 1, 1917. American sculptor Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney (1875-1942) developed a bronze statue called *Buffalo Bill—The Scout*. Roman Bronze Works in New York cast the sculpture, which stands almost 12 ½ feet high and 7 feet wide, and purchased 40 acres in view of Shoshone Canyon to display it. The unveiling occurred on July 4, 1924, and the Buffalo Bill Museum, housed in a log-cabin-style building, opened three years later. A new Buffalo Bill Historical Center opened in 1969. Known today as the Buffalo Bill Center for the West, it features five museums and a research library. A Buffalo Bill Museum operates in LeClaire, Iowa, as do dozens of other historical attractions and

Table 1. Themes of Buffalo Bill medallions issued in 1968-2006 by Cody Country Chamber of Commerce (CCC)

Year	Theme
1968	Model 94 Winchester Rifle
1969	Buffalo Bill Historical Center
1970	Year of the Daisy—Winchester Rifle
1971	Cody Stampede—Nite Rodeo
1972	Yellowstone National Park Centennial
1973	Wyoming Stock Growers Association
1974	West Park County Hospital
1975	Marathon Oil Company
1976	United States Bicentennial
1977	Wapiti Ranger Station
1978	Husky Oil
1979	Plains Indians Museum
1980	Cody Country Chamber of Commerce
1981	Buffalo Bill Dam
1982	Old Trail Town
1983	100 Years—Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show
1984	Foundation of North American Wild Sheep
1985	Fishing Bridge
1986	Cowboys of Wyoming
1987	Clayton Gulch (CCC Reunion)
1988	Cody Rodeo Night—50th Anniversary
1989-90	Wyoming Centennial
1991	National Forests Centennial
1992	75 Years—Buffalo Bill Memorial Association
1993	Buffalo Bill Dam Visitor Center
1994	Cody Stampede—75th Anniversary
1995	100 Years—Buffalo Bill’s TE Ranch
1996	Cody Centennial
1997	Chief Joseph Scenic Byway
1998	Historic Cody, Wyoming
1999	100 Years of News—Cody Enterprise
2000	100 Years—Cody Chamber of Commerce
2001	Paul Stock Aquatic Recreation Center
2002	Draper Natural History Museum
2003	100 Years—Buffalo Bill’s Irma Hotel
2004	100 Years—Old Faithful Inn
2005	100 Years—Pahaska Tepee
2006	Plains Indian Powwow—25th Anniversary

Medals of Buffalo Bill... *continued*



FIGURE 5. The 75th anniversary of Wyoming's statehood commemorative medallion features Buffalo Bill on the obverse.
Actual Size: 45mm



landmarks around the world, but primarily in the United States. The American Football Conference Buffalo Bills franchise in Buffalo, New York, was named after Buffalo Bill Cody.

“A few weeks after Cody’s death, the townspeople of Cody wanted to create a tribute to their beloved namesake.”

Commemorative Medals

Many commemorative medals and medallions have been minted to honor Cody and tell the story of the man and his legacy. One of the longest running series began in 1968 (and, as previously mentioned, inspired me in 1970). They were issued annually (except from 1989 to 1990) by the Cody Country Chamber of Commerce through 2006. Typically, the Medallic Art Company minted between 1,000 and 2,500 bronze and 200 to 250 silver medals for the series. Each medal is 37-39mm in diameter and 2.8-3mm thick with a reeded edge. The .999-fine silver medals (with some in a satin finish) weigh 28-32g (1-1.1 troy oz) and are individually numbered. Each bears the same obverse of Col. William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody in relief facing left and the years 1846-1917 along the bottom rim. The design was selected from sketches submitted by Robert William Meyers (1919-70), a famed illustrator and Western artist. The reverse bore a different theme each year, in keeping with the importance of the year to Cody (Table 1).

Leavenworth served as Cody’s home shortly after its founding in 1854 as the first city incorporated in the Kansas territory. It was a hotbed for agitation in the slavery debates. As noted earlier, Cody’s father was stabbed for his anti-slavery stance during a public meeting and later died in 1857. The city of Leavenworth features a Buffalo Bill Cody mural with Cody as the central figure.

On a few occasions in the 1930s through the ’50s, a Pioneer Days celebration was held in tribute to Cody as a native son. A Buffalo Bill’s Day festival was introduced in 1968 and continued for nearly three decades, aiming to raise funds to acquire land on Cody Hill for the development of a state park.



FIGURE 6. The official bronze commemorative coin of Cody’s Scouts Rest Ranch Park in North Platte, Nebraska depicts the ranch on the reverse. Actual Size: 29mm



Medals of Buffalo Bill... *continued*

The Buffalo Bill Cody Days commemorative souvenir silver dollar was produced and sold at the annual festival from 1969 through 1983. Each dollar is 39mm in diameter and 1.8mm thick with a plain edge. The compositions were nickel in 1969-79 and bronze in 1980-83. A .925-fine silver medal was also sold (individually numbered, weighing 26.9g and edge-stamped STERLING). The 1969 design is shown in **Figure 4**. Each dollar features a different obverse and reverse, as listed in Table 2. The festival eventually departed from this theme but has recently returned with a new purpose supporting original traditions.

Additional Cody medals include the issue created in 1964 commemorating the 75th anniversary of Wyoming statehood in 1965. **Figure 5** shows the 57g, .999-fine silver round (45mm diameter and 2.1mm thick) plain-edge medal produced by Medallic Art Company. Three different obverses feature Buffalo Bill, Esther Hobart Morris (the nation's first woman judge), and the Great Seal of Wyoming to commemorate the state's anniversary. The reverse pictures a central oil derrick balanced at top with a wagon train on the left, a steam train in the center, and a rocket on the right. The background shows a farm and sheep at left, a mountain range at center, and a deer, elk, and cowboy at right. The design is encircled with 1890—75TH ANNIVERSARY—1965 at top and GO WEST—GO WYOMING at bottom. The Scout's Rest Ranch, which served as Cody's home for 30 years in North Platte, Nebraska, is featured on the 29mm bronze official commemorative coin (#634) shown in **Figure 6** with COL. WM. F. BUFFALO BILL CODY on the obverse and his house on the reverse.

The Cody tomb/grave at Lookout Mountain in Golden, Colorado (part of the Denver Mountain Parks), is depicted on various medals and paperweights issued for visitors c. 1920s and '40s, as shown in **Figure 7**. Different versions show his birth year as 1845 or 1846. (In his autobiography, Cody said he was born in 1845.) For the centennial of Cody's birth, the obverse dates show 1846-1946, the word GRAVE was replaced with the word TOMB, and BUFFALO BILL CENTENNIAL replaced DENVER MOUNTAIN PARKS. The medal has a diameter of 72mm, is 4.8mm thick, and weighs 121g. It has a smooth, rounded edge. The base composition is possibly pewter, and examples can be found with copper or nickel plating. Reverse designs include a "Lucky Penny" that looks like an Indian Head cent obverse and a "Lucky Nickel" that mimics the reverse of the Buffalo nickel. Another design includes three monkeys, a quill, and an ink bottle with the phrase DON'T MONKEY WITH ANYTHING ON THIS DESK. For the centennial version, the reverse depicts an Indian head like the obverse of the Buffalo nickel.

The last medal, illustrated in **Figure 8**, is from the Rugged American set of 13 bronze medals produced for Husky Oil by the Franklin Mint in 1970. Along with Buffalo Bill Cody, the set includes Louisiana Purchase explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their guide Sacagawea; Plains Indians Black Hawk, Crazy Horse, Chief Joseph, Sitting Bull, and Geronimo; and the frontiersmen Kit Carson, Wild Bill Hickok, and Wyatt Earp. An eight-page booklet was produced with biographies of each person. The Cody medal reverse features a

Table 2. Themes of the Buffalo Bill Days Commemorative Dollar issued in 1969-83

Year	Obverse	Reverse Text
1969	Portrait—right facing	Dollar Redeemable at Celebration Headquarters
1970	Portrait—center facing	Buffalo Image
1971	Portrait—left facing	125th Cody Birth Anniversary
1972	Buffalo calf	Start of State Park Buffalo Herd—April 1972
1973	Cody boyhood home	Cody Homestead—Salt Creek Valley
1974	Cody on horse "Isham"	"Isham"—His Trusted Mount of Wild West Show
1975	Sitting Bull and Cody	Cody with Chief Sitting Bull 1885
1976	Pawnee Bill and Cody	Pawnee Bill & Buffalo Bill (US Bicentennial)
1977	Buntine and Cody	Author Ned Buntine with Cody 1872
1978	Cody in buckskin coat	Author Ned Buntine with Cody 1872 Alexis Buffalo Hunt Guide 1872
1979	Cody in uniform	William F. Cody 125th Anniversary of Leavenworth, Kansas
1980	Cody in saddle	"The Showman" Sitting Tall in the Saddle 1908
1981	Portrait at age 18	Cody at Eighteen When He Enlisted in the Union Army
1982	Cody and wife	Cody with His Wife Louisa Frederici
1983	Cody with Irma*	Cody with His Sister Irma*

*Coin was minted with an error, Irma was Cody's youngest daughter.

buffalo head. For the artifact collector, James Wojtowicz's *The W. F. Cody Buffalo Bill Collector's Guide with Values* was published in 1998. After a brief introduction by Thomas Glass, "Buffalo Bill Cody—Scout, Showman, American Icon," 14 chapters describe and illustrate the remarkable and diverse variety of memorabilia available, including an 1892 London medal and 1893 Columbian World's Fair medal.

Conclusion

The Buffalo Bill Legacy Gallery was founded in 2014 and holds thousands of Buffalo Bill related artifacts in 27 categories. The gallery operates under the guidelines and supervision of the International Cody Family Association, which was organized in Chicago in October 1925.

Medals of Buffalo Bill... *continued*

Additionally, two U.S. postage stamps and one postal card have featured Buffalo Bill Cody. Designed by Jack Rosenthal, the first honored Cody in the Great Americans definitive stamps series on a 15-cent claret-colored stamp (Scott Catalog #2177). It was released in Cody, Wyoming, on June 6, 1988, in sheets of 100. Cody was further commemorated on one of the 20 first-class, multi-colored stamps designed by Mark Hess (each valued at 29 cents) in the Legends of the West pane (Scott #2869) and on a set of 19-cent postal cards (Scott #UX178-197) issued October 18, 1994, on the campus of the University of Wyoming in Laramie. They were also issued at Old Tucson in Tucson, Arizona, and at Fort Sill in Lawton, Oklahoma.

In 1908, Charles Eldridge Griffin, who had served in the Wild West European tour, wrote *Four Years in Europe with Buffalo Bill*. Griffin characterized Buffalo Bill as “truly one of the best fellows in the world—open hearted and generous to a fault.” Over a century later, Buffalo Bill Cody remains a popular and impactful figure within the legacy of America’s Wild West heritage. A rich source of materials is available to the numismatic collector.

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“*Griffin characterized Buffalo Bill as truly one of the best fellows in the world.*”



FIGURE 7. The Denver Mountain Parks souvenir medallion features Buffalo Bill’s grave at Lookout Mountain. Actual Size: 72mm



FIGURE 8. This Buffalo Bill bronze medal was produced by the Franklin Mint for Husky Oil in 1970. Actual Size: 26mm

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