

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

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February 26th. was the 96th. anniversary of the birth of our kinsman Colonel William Frederick Cody (Buffalo Bill), and on Saturday night, Feb. 28th. twenty five members of our family gathered at the Hotel Allerton, Cleveland, Ohio for a birthday dinner in memory of this event. Past President Frederick C. Cody of Cleveland was Chairman of the evening. Following the dinner was the presentation of bank drafts for fifty dollars each to Miss Lydia S. Cody, Mrs. Ella Jean Cody and Ernest William Cody in appreciation of their efforts in behalf of the Cody Family. This presentation was made possible by the generous response of many members of our family to the appeal made by Fred C. Cody and Harry B. Cody. Following the presentation we had a number of impromptu speeches fitting to the occasion, then two reels of moving pictures of the late Colonel Cody in person; these pictures were filmed in 1915 and 1916 and were graciously loaned for the occasion by Hiram S. Cody of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. All arrangements for this delightful birthday party were in the capable hands of Miss Grace Cody, Fred C. Cody and Harry B. Cody. We owe them a hearty vote of appreciation for their efforts. The three recipients of the gifts have written a note of thanks to our members and these "thank you" expressions are quoted below:

"GREETINGS AND THANKS - to the many members of the Cody Family who contributed toward a gift of appreciation to me for my work in bringing to you in narrative form what it has been possible to learn concerning the life of the first American ancestor of our Cody Family - thanks not only for your gift of appreciation, but very especially for the written word each of you sent with your contribution. By these messages I am encouraged to believe that by your reading of my historical narrative you have come to feel, as I have during the work of preparing it, that our first American ancestor was well worthy our honor and highest respect. Also by these messages, and as I have come to know many of you, and have heard from you of the Cody ancestors in your various lines, I am persuaded that the descendants of Philip and Martha, who established the first of our Cody homes on American soil (Beverly, Mass. 1698), are for the most part worthy of their Cody inheritance - God-loving, home-making, community serving, ever ready to answer where duty at its best may call."

Gratefully and sincerely yours,

Lydia S. Cody
CHAIRMAN HISTORICAL BOARD

Lydia S. Cody

"Thank you sincerely for the lovely presentation made to me at Cleveland, Ohio on Feb. 28th. It was good of you all to include me in the gifts. Since joining the Cody Family nearly four years ago I have tried to help with the work to the best of my ability; it is very fascinating and I have thoroughly enjoyed the pleasant contacts and meeting so many of the clan. "

Very sincerely yours,

Ella Jean K. Cody

Ella Jean K. Cody

"I do appreciate the substantial gift made to me at Cleveland on Feb. 28th. It was a complete surprise and those who arranged it, and those who so generously contributed certainly kept the secret well. Appreciation of one's work is heartening, and gives a person the encouragement to carry on. During the past 17 years I have spent a great deal of time in the work of the Cody Family; it has been an interesting task and for the most part I have received the finest of support and co-operation from our families. It has been my privilege to read the many letters which accompanied your contributions and the words of appreciation have meant much to me. Thank you sincerely for this gesture of good will to my wife (Ella Jean) and myself."

Gratefully yours,

Ernest W. Cody
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Ernest W. Cody
