

The Cooley Family Association of America

Founded by Mortimer E. Cooley August 15, 1936

Cooley Communiqué

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to all of you CFAA members. Now that we are all home from our family reunion and have had some time to reflect upon our experiences, I believe we can chalk this reunion up as very successful. Our speaker, Sunny Morton, was simply flat out fabulous. Before I even get started talking about Sunny's contribution, I want to thank Doug Cooley (our genealogist) for searching, locating and securing our keynote speaker, Sunny. As a speaker, Sunny was warm, engaging and informative. Her challenge to research some of our own past family personalities motivated members to begin thinking about specific ancestors that captured their interest. She was also extremely helpful in laying down a path for us to follow to help us get to where we want to go with that research. Sunny's examples were captivating, entertaining and historically exciting. I believe Sunny is a genealogical detective that could rival the complex problem-solving of Poirot (for you Agatha Christie lovers). A big thank you to Sunny for her phenomenal presentation.

Of course, our reunion was multi-faceted with many other activities going on. As we walked in to the presentation room there was a long table totally packed full of Cooley memorabilia... and these artifacts were very interesting and grabbed everyone's attention. The person we have to thank for collecting, transporting and setting up the display is our historian, Dave Cooley. Dave also presented the most recent update of the Cooley family DNA project. Thank you so much Dave for all that you do for the CFAA.

I know this sounds like a big thank you letter, and I suppose that it is. The board members that are elected are all part of what we now refer to as the leadership team. We have several new members and of course some returning members that are now part of the 2018 – 2020 leadership cycle. I would like to welcome two new members at large: Chris Cooley and Bob Skankey. Chris will be focusing on the new e-newsletter distribution that will alternate with our Communiqué editions. Bob will be focusing on general support wherever it is needed and learning the ropes. WELCOME TO THE LEADERSHIP TEAM. Jim Cooley has moved from being a member at large to the secretary position. Jay Smith will be filling in as treasurer while his son Randy is on a mission trip. (I believe Jay has held every office and I am so grateful for his willingness to serve.)

You can see the new leadership team in the box on page 2.

Nancy Tinsley



Nancy Tinsley displays her CFAA Appreciation Award presented for her leadership, dedication, and two-terms as President

CFAA Leadership

President: Nancy Tinsley (interim)
president@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Historian: David Cooley
historian@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Treasurer: Jay Smith (interim)
treasurer@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Communiqué Editor: Dorothy Theriault
editor@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Secretary: Jim Cooley
jim.cooley@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Webmaster: Brandon Kantner
webmaster@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Executive VP: Patricia Cooley-Wetzel
patricia@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Genealogist: Doug Cooley
genealogist@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Outreach VP: Angie Fischer
angie.fischer@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Member at Large & e-NEWS editor: Chris Cooley
iamcooley@live.com

Member at large: Bob Skankey
rskankey1@gmail.com

Cooley Family Reunion – Niagara Falls, NY



1938



2018

What a perfect location choice for the 80th anniversary of the first Reunion. We were blessed to join cousins and friends – whether getting wet on the Maid of the Mist, enjoying Sunny Morton’s presentation, or getting the latest DNA search news from Dave Cooley – excellent planning and enjoyable activities made this a Reunion to remember. Thank you, Dave Cooley, for your photography expertise.



See all the reunion pictures by clicking [HERE](#).

From the Genealogist

A member wrote asking how he could get more knowledgeable about genealogy. Here is my reply:

“Here are some suggestions to help you broaden your knowledge of genealogy, and genealogy research.

- Join a local genealogical society and attend their meetings. You will gain support from association with like-minded individuals.
- Find a local library with a genealogy section. Visit it and meet with the library staff responsible for their genealogy collections. Ask a lot of questions like what resources (library and community) are available.
- Subscribe to Internet Genealogy Blogs and read them daily. I suggest the following:

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/>

<https://blog.eogn.com/>

<https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/>

<https://genealogysstar.blogspot.com/>

<https://www.legalgenealogist.com/>

- Take the time to poke around in each of these blogs reviewing the archives for interesting subjects. Read them. I subscribe to all of these and several more. When you find something interesting, write an article for either or both of our newsletters (*Communiqué*, *CFAA e-News*). Our editors are always looking for content.
- Work on your own tree and share it with your family. Personally investigate each fact and document the sources you attribute to the fact (name, birth, death, marriage, dates and places). Do not integrate someone else’s tree with yours without validating (with legitimate sources) all the facts.
- Get involved in the CFAA. Accept a role in one of the leadership positions.
- Volunteer to help with a CFAA project; such as indexing the content of old *Communiqués*. I could brief you on the requirements if you have an interest. This would not be difficult, but it will probably become tedious and time-consuming. But the old newsletters are otherwise interesting.

This list may seem over-whelming. Take pieces of it and work on them. Reach out for help as necessary.”

A Look Back



Ten years ago we all assembled in Ann Arbor Michigan, home of the CFAA founder, Mortimer Cooley at our biennial reunion. As you may know, Mortimer was the Dean of the University of Michigan, College of Engineering.

Another Cooley who taught at the University of Michigan was Law Professor Thomas McIntyre Cooley, shown at left. He also served as a reporter to the Supreme Court in the 1850s. In 1864 he was elected to the Michigan Supreme Court. While at the Supreme Court he wrote about the “right to be left alone.” This idea was expanded in 1868 when he published “Of Treatise on the Constitutional Limitations Which Rest Upon the Legislative Powers of the State of the American Union.” The Chapter on “Due Process” quickly gained recognition for its support of individual rights. [Editor’s note: Thomas’ work in this area marked the beginning of our Rights of Privacy laws!]

Citation: Cooley, Thomas M. (2018). *Law.umich.edu*. Retrieved 2 October 2018, from

https://www.law.umich.edu/historyandtraditions/faculty/Faculty_Lists/Alpha_Faculty/Pages/Cooley_ThomasM.aspx



Whether we are walking through the Cave of Winds at Niagara Falls or putting our noses into research, each reunion is unique and full of interesting activities and lots of friendly “cousins.” We hope to see you in 2020. Reunion details will be in subsequent Communiqués when time and place are known.

ATTENTION members receiving a printed Communiqué through the U.S. Postal service: Beginning last winter, the CFAA implemented a second newsletter available only by distribution over the Internet. We call it the *CFAA e-News*. It will be distributed 3 months out of phase with The Cooley Communiqué, but may be distributed more frequently. Five issues have been sent already including two Special Editions. This new format allows us to construct the articles free of the formatting necessary for printing. We also embed lots of Internet links to allow readers to learn more about the article than what is included in the newsletter. If you are receiving this newsletter as a print copy, you are missing out. To get both newsletters distributed over the Internet, send your email address to genealogist@cooleyfamilyassociation.com. Disregard this notice if you are already receiving your newsletters electronically.

Doug Cooley, Genealogist
Cooley Family Association of America

*The Cooley Family Association has a [Facebook presence](#).
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genealogist@cooleyfamilyassociation.com

Cooley Family Association of America
Office of the Genealogist
16269 Wake Robin Drive
Newbury, OH 44065
Address Service Requested