

# Family Recipe Friday: The Cooper Family Oatmeal Cookies



[Lee Family, Cooper Family, Green Family, Broida Family](#) *(Click for Family Tree)*

The 'new' tradition of brides to have a dessert table with favorite family recipes is just lovely! For those who are privileged to contribute a dessert, baking becomes another chance to contemplate the new life of the dear bride and groom. The sweet becomes more than just flour, sugar, and vanilla- it is full of love, hopes, and dreams for the new couple. And maybe a few tears add just a touch of salt...

Following is the recipe for oatmeal cookies made by Bess Dorothy (Green) Broida (1891-1978) and passed down to her

daughter Gertrude (Broida) Cooper (1911-2011), who passed it to her children; they passed it down to their own progeny and married-ins. It is a delicious cooky that can have added flavors as desired: nuts (cashews are very good and unexpected), chocolate chips, peanut butter chips, toffee, raisins, even butterscotch chips (a definite favorite). The recipe makes at least 4 dozen cookies, or up to 7 dozen, depending on the size of dough dropped onto the cooky sheet. (Using scoops or "dishers"- sometimes known as 'ice cream scoops' with their spring-loaded sweeper- will make cooky size consistent.)

Cookies can be baked for as little or as long as desired- if you prefer just barely baked and chewy, bake for less time; hard and crunchy might take another minute or two.

A bonus of this recipe is that the dough can be frozen. Lay some dough across the bottom of a resealable bag and form into a roll. Roll up the bag and label; freeze. Rolls can also be made on wax paper and then multiple rolls put in a bag. Small amounts can be cut from a roll to have just a few fresh-baked cookies quickly- 7 dozen fresh-baked oatmeal cookies can be dangerous to have in the house! And we won't talk about the friends in college who headed straight for our freezer to cut off chunks of this dough and eat it still frozen... Definitely not recommended because of the raw eggs but hey, we were all immortal then!

Enjoy this beloved family recipe!

### **The Cooper Family Oatmeal Cookies**

2 cups granulated sugar

2 cups brown sugar, packed

1 cup solid white shortening

1 cup butter or margarine, softened

4 eggs

2-3 teaspoons vanilla

2 teaspoons baking soda

$\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt

3 cups all-purpose flour

6 cups old-fashioned oats/oatmeal

Optional:  $\frac{1}{2}$  – 2 cups of

chopped nuts OR

raisins OR

candies such as M & Ms OR

chips: chocolate, peanut butter, butterscotch, or Heath toffee OR

any combination you desire!

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Cream together sugars, shortening, and butter until no granules of sugar can be seen and color lightens slightly.
3. Add eggs and mix well; add vanilla and mix in thoroughly.
4. Combine baking soda, salt, and flour.
5. Add flour mixture to creamed ingredients and mix thoroughly.

6. Stir in oatmeal.
7. Dough may be divided and optional ingredients added as desired.
8. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cooky sheet or parchment paper.
9. Bake about 13 minutes for a #50 scoop, depending on how crispy or chewy one desires the cookies.

#### NOTES:

Dough may be rolled into logs and frozen. Slice while still frozen for baking, which may take a few minutes longer than thawed dough.

*Makes 4-7 dozen cookies depending on size*

#### **Notes, Sources, and References:**

1. Photo from our favorite flower girl, and recipe passed down through the family.

*Click to enlarge any image. Please contact us if you would like an image in higher resolution.*

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## A Very Special Day



05 June 1948- Wedding picture of Edward A. McMurray and Mary T. Helbling

[McMurray Family](#), [Helbling Family](#), [Cooper Family](#), [Broida Family](#), (Click for Family Trees)

Today is a very special day in our family- there will be a wedding!

Young brides and grooms think that their wedding is a celebration of *their* love, and it definitely is that. It is

their most special day, to long be remembered by themselves and all the loving family and friends who share the joyful event.

But...

♥ Every wedding is a reaffirmation of love and how it endures through the years.

♥ Every wedding is the start of something- a new chapter in the book of life, in which one builds a career, maybe a business, a set of new relationships, and (hopefully) a lifetime of love and support.

And...

♥ Every wedding is a reinforcement of the new family as a small unit within a much larger set of families.

So it is also a time to think about all those marriages that came before and helped to make us who we are, with our random inheritance of DNA.

Today, let us take a bit of a walk through the past, remembering the marriages of our ancestors and the happiness they must have felt on their own special day, or that of their children. Joy fills our hearts as we think of the life these couples built together, and the legacy they have left us.



Abraham Green and Rose Braef/Brave- Wedding Picture? About 1884.

The above is the oldest wedding picture we have.



Wedding Photo of Joseph and Helen Cooper, about 1901.

Cooper was Helen's maiden name- they were second cousins- so that made things easy name-wise.

Some folks eloped so we have no actual wedding picture of them:



1974\_02\_40th Wedding Anniversary of Gertrude Belle (Broida) Cooper and Irving Israel Cooper.

Sure seems like there would be wedding pictures somewhere within the Payne-McMurray family, but don't have any for this couple either:

**WEDDING OF MISS PAYNE.**

News has been received here of the wedding of Miss Lynette Payne and William McMurray, at Marshalltown, Iowa, on Tuesday, June 6th. Mr. and Mrs. McMurray are now residing at Newton, Iowa. Miss Payne is the daughter of Rev. E. B. Payne, for many years pastor of the Unitarian Church. She was a member of the class of '97, Berkeley High School.

Wedding announcement for Lynette Payne-William Elmer McMurray wedding in The Oakland Tribune, 22 June 1899.

Lynette was just nineteen, and had been living with her maternal uncle, Court K. Burnell, after she moved from California to Iowa. C.K. travelled quite a lot, and that may be why A. S. Burnell gave permission for Lynette's marriage.



NOT FOR LEGAL PURPOSES

NOT FOR LEGAL PURPOSES

### REGISTER OF MARRIAGES.

ISSUED BY THE CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT, NEWTON, IOWA.

1	By whose Affidavits, if any, is made	1	Full Name of Groom	1	Age next Birthday	1	Father's Name
2	By Whose Consent to Marriage is Given	2	Place of Residence	2	Race or Color	2	Mother's Maiden Name
3		3	Occupation	3	Place of Birth	3	No. of Groom's Marriage

1 A.S. Burnell  
 2 June 6 1899  
 1 W. E. McMurray  
 2 Newton Iowa  
 3 Merchant  
 1 25 years  
 2  
 3 Newton  
 1 J. W. [unclear]  
 2 Lissa Benjamin  
 3

### REGISTER OF MARRIAGES.

1	Name of Bride	1	Age next Birthday	1	Father's Name	1	Where and When Married	1	Date of Re-
2	Mother's Name (in Bride)	2	Race or Color	2	Mother's Maiden Name	2	Witnesses	2	When Registered
3	Place of Residence	3	Place of Birth	3	No. of Bride's Marriage	3	By Whom Certified, Name and Office		

1 Lynette Payne  
 2 Berkeley Cal  
 1 20 years  
 2  
 3 E. B.  
 1 Marshalltown Ia  
 2 June 6 1899  
 3  
 1 Wm M. Burnell  
 2 F. W. Russell  
 3

Marriage license of Will and Lynette Payne, 6 June 1899, Newton, Jasper, Iowa.

A.S. Burnell was most likely another maternal uncle, Arthur Strong Burnell, who was living in Newton, Jasper, Iowa, in the 1900 US Federal Census. Both uncles had daughters around Lynette's age (and C.K. also had sons) so Lynette had quite a bit of family in Newton, where she and Will McMurray spent the rest of their lives.



1960s? Will and Lynette (Payne) McMurray in Iowa.

These were all long marriages.



Today's wedding ceremony fills our hearts to bursting, and it surely will overflow into tears- but they will be (mostly) happy tears. Today, it is *our* child- a product of *our* love- who marries, and who continues the legacy of love through time.

Oh, Happy, Happy, Joy, Joy!!

### **Notes, Sources, and References:**

1. Family treasure chest of photos.

*Please contact us if you would like higher resolution images. Click to enlarge images.*

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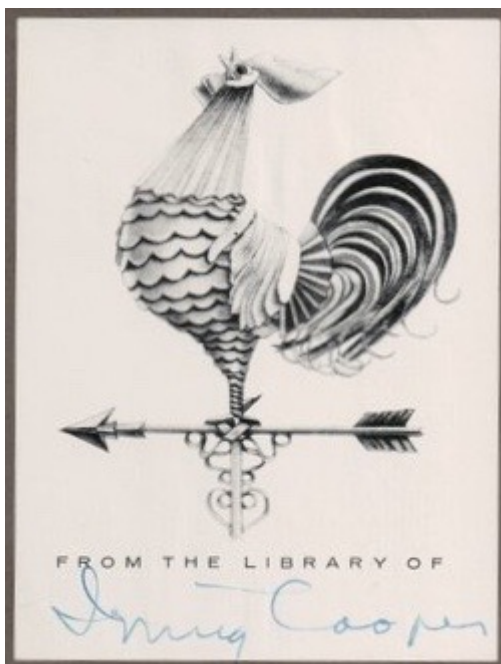
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## **Wordless Wednesday: Irving I. Cooper's Bookplate**



Bookplate of Irving Cooper, circa 1950s?

## Notes, Sources, and References:

1. Irving Israel Cooper (1908-1982) was the son of Joseph Baer Cooper (1873-1955) and Helen Freda Cooper (1878-1934). He married Gertrude Belle Broida (1911-2011).

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# Friday's Faces from the Past: Loretta (Cooper) Rubikow and Delmas Mayer Rubikow?



Delmas Mayer Rubikow (1935-2008) and his wife Loretta (Cooper) Rubikow?

[Cooper Family](#) *(Click for Family Tree)*

Loretta Cooper (1907-1955?) was the daughter of Joseph Bear Cooper and Helen Freda (Cooper) Cooper. She married Delmas Mayer Rubikow (1906-?) circa 1934.

We have identified her through another picture we have posted on the blog- see "[The Daughters of Joseph Baer Cooper and Helen Cooper.](#)"

Please contact us through the blog if you have more information about this couple.

### **Notes, Sources, and References:**

1. Family treasure chest of photos.
2. Surname variously spelled Rubikow, Rubikov, Ribakow, Ribacoff.

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## **Treasure Chest Thursday: The**

# Harold Rubikow Wedding, continued



Harold R. Rubikow dancing with probably his mother, Loretta (Cooper) Ribakow? Summer, 1959.

[Cooper Family](#) *(Click for Family Tree)*

Here are a few more images from the Rubikow/Ribakow wedding that we posted about yesterday.



Possibly parents of Harold Rubikow: Loretta Cooper and Delmas Mayer Ribakow? Summer, 1959.

Nice to have pictures of Loretta Cooper and Delmas Mayer Rubikow, if we are correct in our identification. Please let us know if you have more information!





Possibly parents of Harold Rubikow: Loretta Cooper and Delmas Mayer Ribakow? Summer, 1959.

### **Notes, Sources, and References:**

1. Family treasure chest of photos.
2. Family name variously spelled as Rubikow, Rubikov, Ribakow, Ribacoff, etc.

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