



# Milo Andrus

Family Organization

Newsletter

**Spring  
2010**

## **President's Message**

It seems nothing is more constant than change. At our board meeting in March, we welcomed Newt Andrus as the new wife line representative for the Jane Munday line. Rich Andrus has served very well in that position for the past seven years. Under his leadership much has been done to advance research for the Munday wife line. We also relied much on Rich's legal expertise to make sure our organization and bylaws met all legal requirements. We will miss Rich and his wife Millie in our organizational meetings, and wish them Godspeed. We welcome Newt to the organization and appreciate his willingness to jump in and lead the Jane Munday wife line. We also welcome Kathie Smith as our new representative for the Mary Ann Webster line. Kathie has agreed to fill this position until elections are held at next year's reunion.

## **New in this issue:**

- ⇒ **Reunion 2011 information**
- ⇒ **De Lane Andrus Hyer's Research Report**
- ⇒ **Historical information on reunions and family organization**

Speaking of reunions, be sure to make your plans to attend next summer's "old fashioned pioneer picnic" at Liberty Park in Salt Lake City. Mark Andrus, organization Vice President, has worked hard to put together a full day of family and wife line activities that are guaranteed to be memorable. Because of reservation requirements at Liberty Park, we can't finalize dates for the reunion until early next year. Our preferred dates for the reunion are Saturday June 25, 2011 and June 18, 2011, in that order. There will be more details forthcoming on the website, on Facebook, and in our fall newsletter.

Our webmaster Andy Andrus has been busy working on a new layout for the Milo Andrus website. We got a preview of the new site at our March board meeting, and I am excited for the changes that are coming. Plans are to roll out the new design later this year—watch for it!

Have you signed up for the New Family Search website yet? We had a great turnout at the training session held in conjunction with our board meeting in March. One of the things we learned is how important each wife line is in our research. There are some great tutorials on the new website to help you get started. You can access the website at <https://new.familysearch.org>  
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### ***Current Organization***

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***Need more info?  
Go to [www.miloandrus.org](http://www.miloandrus.org)***

*President's message continued*

While I was navigating our own website, I came across some interesting information about our organization. For example, the first reunion on record was held in 1905, conducted by Milo Jr. and James Andrus. There are references in the notes to previous gatherings. In 1926, the reunion was held at Liberty Park. In 1937, a motion was passed requesting a \$5.00 contribution from each head of a family for research. Running a quick calculation for inflation, that's the equivalent in today's dollars of over \$75! And that was at the height of the great depression! That makes our request of \$25.00 from each family look like a real bargain. (As a side note, if every family receiving this newsletter—hard copy or electronic—paid just \$5.00 today, it would nearly quadruple our income and allow us to do much more research). We discussed in our board meeting the possibility of creating different levels of membership similar to what the Boy Scouts and other nonprofit organizations do. While encouraging donations of any kind, \$25 per year would be a sustaining membership. On the feedback/

contribution form you will see different levels represented. This is a work in progress, so if you have other recommendations, please give us your input. The bottom line is we need to raise more funds if we are going to sustain and increase the research and communication that our organizational mission mandates. Technology is such a blessing; it allows us to communicate around the world and stay connected. Never before have we had so many ways to keep in touch with each other. As our family continues to grow, our challenge will be to keep the lines of communication open. DNA technology allows us to either confirm or eliminate possible family connections. DNA testing is and will continue to be a key to breakthroughs in our family research. It is expensive, but it has already helped us to rule out several possible connections to Milo and Ruluff, allowing us to focus efforts elsewhere. Your contributions are a sacred trust, and we will always do our best to be good stewards of your generosity. All the best for wonderful and productive year,  
-Brent M. Andrus

**Research Report**

**By De Lane Andrus Hyer**

Recently I attempted to find Mary Ann Rock Williams Pugh biography (She married Benjamin Williams), on line without any success. I am sure that many of her descendants are not aware of her Biography and so I decided to include it in the Andrus Newsletter this printing. Mary Ann's biography has given me much courage and hope when I have had difficulties to surmount in my own life. I hope it will do the same for you.

De Lane Andrus Hyer April 25, 2010

P.S. We are collecting any information about Ann Brooks and her Piano as we have found conflicting stories and some erroneous tales concerning her and the piano for example, Milo and Ann did not meet on the trail as some stories say, they met, (from what we have found) in England and **did not** cross the plains together. We would like original sources if anyone has it. Also we would like any information or pictures you may have on any other relative; we would appreciate you sharing it with us so that we may share it with the rest of the family. Just tell us how the person is related to the Andrus family. And again, original sources are important. Thanks for the help. Email it to:

[research2@miloandrus.org](mailto:research2@miloandrus.org)

**BIOGRAPHY OF MARY ANN ROCK WILLIAMS PUGH**

Dictated by herself to John Brooks  
Who wrote it at the time, July 27, 1883

I, Mary Ann Williams, daughter of George and Mary Rock, born in Westhide, Herefordshire, England

Feb. 2, 1812, came to Nauvoo, Illinois in April 1842 with my husband, Benjamin Williams, and two small children, George A. and Lucy Maria. My husband purchased a full lot on the north side of Parley Street from Laman Colkins, receiving a full title to the same. We fenced the lot and built a frame house on it, dug a deep well and made necessary improvements to make us comfortable. My husband was a very hard working man. He and another man dug over a mile of fence ditch around a farm on the prairie and from constant exposure in the sloughs and swamps, he sickened and died in December 1842. I remained in my house until Sept. 1846 when a company of armed men came to my house and told me they had been promised "booty and beauty" by the commander and they would have it. They told me I should be protected, also my three children, George A., Lucy M. and Ephraim H. if I would forsake the Mormons. I replied telling them I had left my native country to join the Mormons and that I intended to follow them as soon as I could. Then they told me I must be off and out of my house in twenty minutes or take the consequences.

Having no team, I could take but very little with me. I took a little bedding, about half a bushel of meal, a small piece of pork and started with my three small children to the bank of the Mississippi River to avoid the beastly threats of the U.S. soldiers or mobbers, leaving my comfortable home with its furniture, clothing and bedding to the mercy of the U.S. soldiers and devils. On the bank of the river I found several hundred of my brethren and sisters and their children. The first night the mob would not allow us to lie on the bank of the river, but I was driven with my three orphan children down as close to the water as we could possibly get  
(continued on next page)

### *Research continued*

and had to lie on the hard rock, but not to sleep. The next morning myself and about forty more women and children who were sick with fever and ague were allowed to go further up on the bank and there we lay in the sun until night. The second night we were removed into a stone building where we lay on the rock floor, my apron folded and placed under my head, being the thing I had to lie upon, my little son Ephraim being with me. He was then about three years old. When day came I was taken across the Mississippi River with others of our people. The mobbers would have the boats so heavily loaded, their intention being to sink the boats. We stood ankle deep in water in crossing and the mobbers frequently shouted that they hoped the boats would sink so they could see the end of the lot. Through great perseverance we were landed safely on the west side of the river.

By the time the mobbers had possession of our Temple and had made a fortress of it. About half an hour after we were landed, the mobbers fired a ball from a cannon in our temple. The ball fell in the river throwing a shower of mud and water over us. We were huddled together on the Westside of the river, a number of us, and could not get away, the place being very swampy. No tongue can estimate the value of the property I was robbed of. What a comfort it would have been to me and my orphan children in our now destitution and desolation. Some of the brethren cut a pile of brush and made me a kind of bed on which to lay for six weeks sick with the fever and ague with my three orphan children half starved and crying for food, without any shelter for them or their sick mother and exposed to the inclemency of the weather. The pen cannot describe nor the tongue tell the suffering from exposure, destitution, starvation, sickness and death that surrounded us for the next two years. I will leave that part to the angels who will avenge the Saints of their wrongs when he pours out the vials of his wrath on the State of Illinois for having suffered these things to come upon innocent men, women and children in 1846. I lay in that awful condition for six or seven weeks through sickness and storm when some of the brethren came back from the camp in Pottawattamie County, Iowa and moved me to that place. After I ar-

rived there some of the brethren made a temporary covering, that is, a few rough logs thrown together without floor or chimney. Our food consisted of cracked corn and very little of that; nothing besides this, not even salt. When it is taken into consideration that this was winter, I think the conclusion will be that this was hard fare. When spring came nothing better presented itself. I lived many a day having only a pint of meal between three or four of us. We took the corn and mashed it in a log hollowed out for that purpose. Through that summer I became so thin and feeble that light could almost be seen through my hands, for the most part I had fed to my children. A great deal more might be added, but let this suffice at present.

This is a true statement, but not half as bad as it was. This is my testimony before God, angels and men. Note: Mary Ann Rock Williams Pugh is related to the Andrus family in this way:

One of the sons of Milo Andrus and Ann Brooks was Orson Andrus. Orson married Mary Alberta Williams who was the daughter of George Abraham Williams and Emily Crosby. George was one of the sons of Mary Ann and Benjamin Williams mentioned in Mary Ann Williams biography. George was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of Nov. in 1838 in Weston, Beggard, Hereford, England. Also, after Mary Ann's husband died she married Edward Pugh, Jr. and they had a son named Enoch Rock Pugh on 16 Jan 1848 at Kanessville (Known as Council Bluffs), Pottawattamie, Iowa. Thus she had four children total.

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## **Get involved!**

# **Contact your wife line representative today!**

## **Did you know...?**

- ⇒ Ann Brooks Andrus, the only surviving wife of Milo Andrus attended the first recorded reunion in 1905. Greater family unity was encouraged by many at that reunion.
- ⇒ At the first reunion it was agreed that future reunions would be held in the Salt Lake City area.
- ⇒ In addition to the Salt Lake Valley, reunions have been held in Logan, UT, St. George, UT, Ucon, ID, Idaho Falls, ID, Spanish Fork, UT, Provo, UT, Richmond, UT, Ashton, ID, and even Waterton Lakes National Park In Alberta, Canada!
- ⇒ Reunions were held annually through much of the 1930's and every year from 1947-1966.
- ⇒ The Andrus Recorder began officially at the 1963 reunion in Draper, UT.
- ⇒ First mention of wife line representatives is included in minutes of the 1937 reunion.
- ⇒ In 1905, the oldest living child was designated to be president of the organization, next oldest to be vice president, to be perpetuated in this manner. Imagine that today!

Learn more at [www.miloandrus.org](http://www.miloandrus.org)

## ***Milo Andrus Family Reunion Summer 2011 – “An Old Fashioned Pioneer Picnic”***

Make plans now to attend the reunion that will be held at Liberty Park in Salt Lake City during the later part of June 2011. The day will start with a pancake breakfast followed by a business meeting for all those who would like to attend. At noon each “wife line” will make plans to come together for lunch. A great opportunity to get to know each other, play games, talk genealogy, conduct business and of course eat. At the end of the day we'll all come together for more games (pioneer games), a Barbeque dinner, live music, family displays and by popular request the wonderful play we all enjoyed at our last family reunion. This reunion will be one to remember for all ages. Liberty Park also has many activities that you can do on your own such as: rent paddle boats on Liberty Park Lake, feed the ducks, play horseshoes, nap under a tree, swim at the park pool, visit Tracy Aviary, visit Chase Home Museum, play in the Seven Canyons water fountain, there's a small children's amusement park, play in the playground that has slides, swings and a tree house. We will also provide maps to family historic locations around the Salt Lake City area. For more information about Liberty Park go to [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberty\\_Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberty_Park). More details and the exact date will be forthcoming. Hope to see you there!