



Milo Andrus

Family Organization

Newsletter

**Fall
2009**

President's Message

Shortly after the publication of our last newsletter, we learned of the tragic accident that took the life of our dear cousin and colleague Cyrus Milo McKell. Cyrus served faithfully for many years as the wife line representative for the Lucy Loomis Tuttle line. His participation made our organization better, and we will miss him. His daughter, Meredith Graff has agreed to serve in his place in the interim until elections are held at the next reunion. Welcome Meredith!

New in this issue:

- ⇒ **Research Update on Ruluf Andrus/Andress**
- ⇒ **Wife line research updates for Jane Munday and Ann Brooks**
- ⇒ **Dolph Andrus's travels in Southern Utah**
- ⇒ **Family Search Training at Family History Library**

Speaking of reunions, I have been asked several times in recent weeks when we will be holding our next reunion. During our Board meeting earlier this

month, we formed a committee to explore options for our next reunion. Mark Andrus, Vice President is steering that committee, and we anticipate having general plans and dates announced in our spring newsletter. We are looking at summer 2011 for our next gathering, and welcome any assistance in planning reunion events. We had a number of very well-attended wife line reunions in conjunction with our 2007 event, and we are encouraging the same for 2011. You may even consider smaller group events with your immediate and extended families. I spoke with some of my first cousins recently about this, and we will likely hold a William Reynolds Andrus (our grandfather, two generations removed from Milo) reunion at the same time.

Checking on the Milo Andrus Facebook page, we now have 167 members, up considerably from six months ago. There's lots of room to grow, and it's a great opportunity to catch up with all your Andrus cousins.

With the rollout of the New Family Search program, we have much work to do to correct information that has been submitted previously. Our research team
(Continued on next page)

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President's message continued

has been actively working to update information, but we need the participation of all wife lines. In conjunction with our March 20, 2010 Board Meeting, we will be holding a training session at the Family History Center in Salt Lake City. Wife lines are expected to be represented at the training, but we invite any who would like to learn more and be involved to join us (see announcement on back page). Please RSVP to a member of the research team.

Be sure to read the story of Dolph Andrus's travels in Southern Utah, submitted by his son Berwyn. I found the story interesting, and hope it will encourage oth-

ers to share similar stories either in the newsletter or on our website.

Shortly before going to press, we had another necessary change in the organization. Bonnie Goddard will now be serving as wife line representative for Ann Brooks. Our thanks go to Kathrine Bowthorpe for her many years of service, and a hearty welcome to Bonnie for her willingness to serve.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, and I look forward to seeing many of you at "Spring Training" in March.

-Brent M. Andrus

Research Report

RULUF ANDRUS/ANDRESS LINE RESEARCH

We would like to thank Carol, Bonnie and Jim who have participated in our research efforts at the FHC and invite all those interested in joining our efforts to contact us (see contact info at end). Both because Milo had eleven wives and because New Family Search prefers that only direct descendants change individual files, the perfect situation would be a team of researchers on each wife line. All those who have been involved thus far in our research represent only two wifelines, so we have plenty of work to do!

Now, for some of the mysteries we are currently chasing down: first, we have been spending a lot of time on the Ruluf Andrus line (Milo's father). In the past, there have been assumptions made that sent us down the wrong road, a topic we will address thoroughly in the next newsletter. To be brief, it has been rumored that in a talk Milo gave, he said that "Ruluf was a native of Hartford Connecticut." A modern reader would naturally believe that meant Ruluf was born in Connecticut. However, back when Milo made the statement, the word "native" only meant that his family descended from settlers of that place. To highlight the instability of the belief that Ruluf was born in Connecticut, two of Ruluf's children, Almon and Harriet, who lived with him until he died, stated that Ruluf was born in Vermont.

We have not found a birth or baptism record for Ruluf as of yet. This could very well be because the Baptist church his family helped establish in Rutland, Vermont (Oct 1773) was not organized until six months after his birth. In other research, there are three family lines we have found with the Andrus name from the Rutland area. We have done DNA testing on two of them and found them to be of no relation. We are now seeking to do a DNA test on a descendant of William Andrews Born about 1595 in Kingsnorth, Kent, England; Married 19 Jan 1638/1639 in Hartford, Hartford, Connecticut; Died 3 Aug 1659 in Hartford, Hartford, Connecticut. He is the great-great grandfather of Jehiel Andrews whom we believe to be Ruluf's grandfather. We are looking for the Y-chromosome for this line so we can confirm our theory, and we are willing to pay to have the test done.

To see the complete genealogy and notes on this family use the following link: <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=miloandrus&id=153670>

JANE LANCASTER MUNDAY BROWN ANDRUS RESEARCH

For those who do not know her well, you may wonder why Jane, Milo's eighth wife, had so many surnames. She was born on 4 Oct 1832 in Coventry, Warwickshire, England to an unwed mother, Harriet Lancaster and Thomas? The surname Munday comes from Harriet's later marriage to a man named Thomas Munday, who may or may not be the same Thomas listed as Jane's father on her christening record. In 1851, Jane joined the LDS church and then traveled to the United States on the ship Ellen Maria with William Broadhead, the missionary who baptized her, and his family (he was a ribbon weaver from Coventry, England). After arriving in St. Louis, Jane met and married Samuel Brown with whom she had a son. Both father and son died in St. Louis, Missouri of cholera in 1854. In 1855, Jane, having lost her husband and son, is found traveling to Utah in company with an Amelia Brown. Jane Lancaster MUNDAY Brown ANDRUS, whom I will now refer to as Jane M. Brown, started out with the Charles C. Harper Company and later left that company to finish the trek with the Milo Andrus Company. At this point, Amelia Brown and Jane M. Brown are listed as a "family."

Who was this Amelia Brown traveling with Jane? While doing some specialized research on the Overland Travel Index with Mel Bayshore, Laura Anderson believes she discovered the answer. In Amelia Brown's step-father's journal (Ira Ames, written in 1858) he clearly states that Amelia was sent ahead in 1855. Later, Laura found an unprocessed list of emigrants created at Mormon Grove that helps us prove that our Jane M. Brown was traveling with Amelia Brown's family. According to this roster, Jane and two of Amelia Brown's sisters are listed as traveling on the William Rust Wagon in the Charles C. Harper Company, who left just a few days ahead of the last company in 1855.

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Research continued

The Brown family Jane M. Brown is traveling with consisted of Jane Brown Martin, a married daughter, Lucy Brown, a sister, and two children of Jane Martin. (It is interesting to note that the family would have paid their passage ahead because they were on an independent wagon and not indebted to the Perpetual Emigration Fund.)

Milo was asked to take charge of the last Wagon Company of 1855 with only a 13 hour notice. We believe that when Milo caught up to the Harper Company that had been detained by high water at the Big Blue River, he had Jane M. Brown leave the Harper Co. and join his company. Family lore says that he made her a cook, thus ensuring that her passage be paid by the company. Milo had apparently arranged for the next oldest girl in the Brown family –Amelia—to come along with his wagon train when he left Mormon Grove so she could be a companion for Jane M. Brown. We believe that the Brown family that Jane M. Brown is traveling with may be relatives to Jane's late husband, Samuel Brown. We at least know that Amelia Brown's Grandfather was named Samuel Brown.

Evidence suggests that this scenario is true, but we need help in doing more research on the Samuel Brown family, Jane M. Brown's first husband. Laura and her husband Craig are now serving as missionaries at the Church History Library and her time is limited! If you are interested contact Ray Andrus (Research Coordinator) research@miloandrus.org

The last name Andrus was added when Jane M. Brown married Milo Andrus after arriving in the Salt Lake Valley on Nov 22, 1855. Jane and Milo had seven children.

ANN BROOKS RESEARCH

Some of our current research has been focused on the question, "Who was Ann Brooks' father?" We had the death certificate of Ann Brooks Andrus that stated that her father was James Brooks and that her mother was Elizabeth Simkins. However, this seemed to be incorrect according to James Simkins' will in England. We were fairly positive James Simkins was Ann's fa-

ther, but we wanted undeniable proof. We located a gentleman who is the son of Ann's brother, James, and had hoped to do a DNA test with him; it never happened. We then found a court case "In Chancery 1847.s.No91 25 May 1848 Ward Between Elizabeth Simkins Widow and administratrix her husband Edmund Simkins deceased Plaintiff". Aha, we thought, perhaps this is our Elizabeth! Unfortunately, the eight page document is about the wife of James Simkins' brother, Edmund, her name being Elizabeth, and her inheritance case against the rest of his family. The thought then came, "What about Ann's Patriarchal Blessing?" (This is a recorded blessing that lists your parents and is kept on file in the LDS Church.) Ann had a Patriarchal Blessing in 1891 given to her by her husband, Milo Andrus. So we have not one, but two witnesses to the information as recorded on Ann's blessing. It reads:

"PATRIARCHAL BLESSING

Given to Ann Andrus by Patriarch Milo Andrus in Big Cottonwood, Salt Lake County, Utah on May 2, 1891. Daughter of James Simkins and Elizabeth Brooks, Born London, England, December 7, 1832."

Her four paragraph blessing then follows this heading. We now know without a doubt that Ann Brooks Andrus' parents are James Simkins the Butcher (that died in 1847) and Elizabeth Brooks who married Milo Andrus upon reaching Salt Lake City, Utah in 1855.

We are still transcribing the court case mentioned above and hope to find treasures there.

Our Milo Andrus Research Team:

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Dolph Andrus and the "MONUMENTAL HIGHWAY"

Dolph Andrus (Randolph Andrus Jr.), grandson of Milo and Adeline Alexander Andrus, moved to Bluff, Utah, in the fall of 1915 to become Principal of the Bluff Public School. During the ride between Blanding and Bluff, he glimpsed a view of the Stone Giants of Monument Valley, and was bitten by the bug that afternoon, and never got over his love of Monument Valley. He dreamed of riding among the giants of Monument Valley, and that dream became a reality

when he became the Agent for the Maxwell Automobile, and made the acquaintance of Dr. W. H. Hopkins, a Salt Lake City Dentist, World Traveler, and photographer.

Between the two of them came a dream of an automobile road to connect Bluff with St. George via Monument Valley, Tuba City, Lee's Ferry, Jacob Lake, and side trips to Zion and other points of tourism.

(Continued on back page)

Continued from previous page

Their slogan of “Fix the Roads – the Tourists are Waiting” was a little bold, since some of the road was little more than a foot trail.

In the summer of 1916, Dolph hitched a ride with a Dave Rust Pack train returning from Bluff to Kanab after Dave had brought the Frasers on a Pack trip to the area. (See “Dave Rust: A Life in the Canyons,” by Frederick H. Swanson, page 117) This gave him the opportunity to view the route first hand and determine that it was possible to take a car through.

The trip was taken in a Maxwell in the late spring of 1917, and an account was published in the January, 1918 issue of “Good Roads Automobilst.” A modern group of old road advocates on The American Road Forum have picked up on the article and have been following the original log with modern technology of Google Earth and much more. One can see the original article as well as follow the modern version at the following website: <http://americanroadmagazine.com/forum/index.php?showtopic=771>

To see all of the thread you will need to follow the posts by “Keep the Show on the Road,” under the tab of “U.S. Highways & Auto Trails.”

During the trip in 1917, near The Red Lake Trading Post, Dolph backed the Maxwell up to a sandstone cliff and carved “MONUMENTAL HIGHWAY” in the rock face. This carving is still in place. Through the efforts of “Keep the Show on the Road” and a local contact, the carving has been located, and a modern photograph has been posted on the website. However, it is on In-

dian lands, and not on any modern road, so it is much easier to follow on the website, than get to it in person.

I intend to visit the site this fall and will be able to give a better account of the difficulties that might be encountered in visiting the site.

Following the Monumental Highway trip, Dolph made another trip with L. W. Clement, a photographer from Salt Lake, in the summer of 1917. This was a pack trip on burros from Bluff over and under the three natural bridges of what is now “Natural Bridges National Monument,” through “Valley of the Gods,” and Monument Valley. This trip included his wife, Irene Jones Andrus, and three-year old daughter, Torma, as well as the photographer’s wife, Jennie. They made it as far as the Totem Pole in Monument Valley and were going to head for Rainbow Bridge, but Clement was not feeling well enough to make it that far, so they returned to Bluff.

If any of you reading this have been into Gerald N. Lund’s latest book, “The Undaunted,” you will have come across Irene’s uncle, Kumen Jones, one of the undaunted. He was the original interest in Dolph, Irene, and Torma moving to Bluff. Their adventures in Bluff seem like a sequel to the novel. If anyone wants further information on this, please feel free to contact me, and I will try and help.

-Berwyn J. Andrus, Adeline Alexander wife line representative. Dolph is my father.

Come Join Us For Family Search Training!

Who: the Research Team, Wife line Reps, and all who wish to participate

Where: Family History Library

35 North West Temple

Salt Lake City, UT

When: Saturday March 20, 2010, 1:00—4:00 pm

**Will your wife line
be represented?
Sign up now and be
sure!**

Space is limited, so RSVP to:

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De Lane Hyer—801-400-4576 research2@miloandrus.org

Ray Andrus—801-492-7985 research@miloandrus.org

All experience levels (including no experience) welcome!