



**MILO ANDRUS,  
OUR GREAT PIONEER ANCESTOR,  
HIS WIVES, HIS CHILDREN  
AND ALMOST ALL OF HIS GRANDCHILDREN  
HAVE GONE FROM THIS EARTH.  
BENEFITS FROM THEIR WORK  
SHOULD BE REMEMBERED!**

*I promise this: if you will learn more about the people  
who share with you a common ancestry, your life will  
be richer, and more satisfying.*

11 November 2005

Dear Fellow Descendant,

In this letter we have some ANNOUNCEMENTS to make.

1. SEARCH FOR LIVING GRANDCHILDREN
2. WIFE-LINE RECORDS AND ORGANIZATIONS
3. REPORT ON THE COMMEMORATION OF MORMON GROVE IN ATCHISON, KS
4. REPORT OF A REUNION OF THE DESCENDANTS OF NEWTON ANDRUS
5. A COMING BOOK OF PICTURES ABOUT THE RULUF ANDRUS FAMILY IN OHIO
6. A PROPOSED EXPANDED BIOGRAPHY OF MILO ANDRUS
7. PROSPECTS FOR EXTENDED ANCESTRY RESEARCH
8. RESEARCH ON THE ANCESTRY OF MILO'S WIVES
9. THE DOCTRINE OF FAMILY TOGETHERNESS
10. WEB SITE CONNECTIONS
11. A MILO ANDRUS FAMILY REUNION IN 2007

### **Who are the living grandchildren?**

By next spring when we publish the next Newsletter we want to have pictures and brief biographies of all the living grandchildren of Milo Andrus. Whoever you are, wherever you are please help us get this information. You can send the pictures and biographies to G. Merrill Andrus, 58 South 930 West, Orem UT 84058. It would be good to get this information immediately, but no later than 1 February 2006. Send along your own address and telephone number, so that we can have communication with you.

### **Is your wife-line organized?**

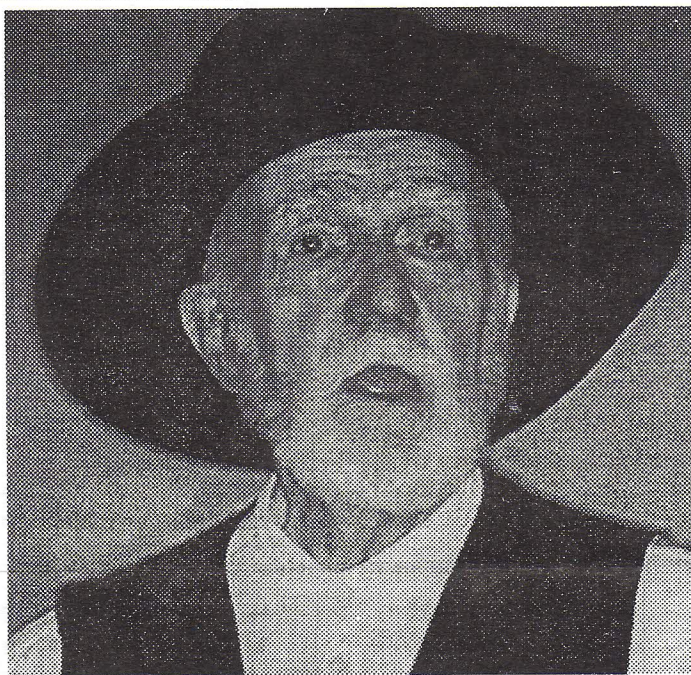
In a recent Board of Directors meeting, Irene Witmer, representative of the descendants of the wife-line of Sarah Ann Miles and Milo Andrus, Sr. showed a "circle chart" made by Ione A. Pack and distributed to family members in August of 1970. This chart has proved invaluable. Your wife-line family members might want to learn to make one.

From that nucleus, the succeeding generations can be charted. To update this original information, current Sarah Ann Miles wife-line family members are designated to communicate his/her family history to the present membership. These have been given a list from the chart and family members have been delegated to continue the succession.

Irene is pleased to report that information has been received from some of the delegated family members. It is rewarding to see the progress of documenting Milo's current history. She hopes that those who have not yet completed this assignment will involve others in their family to get this project under way.

Is your wife-line branch of the family organizing and working on something like this?





## Is this Milo Andrus?

Well again, no. This is a picture of G. Merrill Andrus, president of the Milo Andrus Family Organization, as he appeared at the Commemoration of Mormon Grove in Atchison, Kansas on Saturday, 23 July 2005. The Family participated with youth and adults from the Topeka Kansas Stake and the Platte City Missouri Stake in this gathering. This program was held in the O'Malley-McAllister Auditorium of the Benedictine College at 1020 North Second Street in Atchison. This picture appeared on the front page of the Atchison Daily Globe newspaper along with a nice article by Mary Meyers a reporter for the paper. A follow-up article by Ms. Meyers appeared in the same paper on Wednesday, 27 July and we have copied it below.

## Mormon heritage deserves recognition

by Mary Meyers, Atchison Daily Globe

As I write this column I continue to bask in the afterglow of my Mormon experience last weekend. Their wealth of and respect for genealogy was a breath of fresh air compared to some of the "who cares about that stuff" attitudes I've encountered from some throughout my life.

I'm even more amazed at how much so many of these people out of our area know more about 300 acres of land on the backside of Atchison than we locals do.

According to their historical accounts, Atchison was very new and when the Mormons arrived, only six houses had been built in Atchison. The initial town fathers relied on Mormon cooperation to build much of the initial infrastructure that paved the way for successful commerce and enterprises.

From what I gather, family genealogy is not only important to them personally, but many Mormons consider their family histories as a testament to their faith.

After the Mormons arrived and stepped off the flat river boats and steamboats, they traveled to the hickory tree grove and divided themselves according to their nationality and stayed within their respective camp in the encampment.

On display was an exhibit about Mormon Grove, the designated outfitting post in 1855 for Mormons involved in the Perpetual Emigrant (sic) Fund, a revolving fund to help emigrants migrate to Utah. The exhibit was compiled by Laura Anderson, Utah, who had been to Atchison twice before to research the Mormon connection.

Mrs. Anderson was costumed as a Danish emigrant. I noticed her exhibit was very similar to a folklore and heritage exhibit I've been involved with concerning the St. Patrick's Church pioneers and what was at St. Louis Church—so I guess we're right on track with showcasing our heritage.

Mormon pioneers might reflect different individuals, ethnic or religious groups, circumstances and destinations. However, their stories are basically the same as our ancestors in Good Intent, Saint Patrick's, Port William, Sumner, Atchison and other towns in the county. They're all about perseverance, family and adventures on a new frontier.

What's admirable of the Mormons is that so much of the genealogy is intact and readily accessible to interested individuals.

My first brush with the Mormons came in 1999, when I did a story on the 150th celebration of the San Francisco Gold Rush. About half of the travelers were from Utah and had an affiliation with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—they were aware of Mormon Grove.

A highlight of my recent interaction came later in the afternoon when I took a little jaunt to the Mormon Grove marker along U. S. Highway 73, about four to five miles west of Atchison. It was quite a chance meeting, but while there I caught up with a caravan of vehicles. Heading up this entourage was Dea Yanke, who shared some generational family stories told to her by her "Grandpappy," Roy Reid.

From the marker we traveled north on Osage Road and stopped at a bridge over Deer Creek near a sharp curve in the valley. There Dea pointed toward the direction where she was told the early Reid family pioneers would watch the Mormons load their wagons with spring water for their 1,000-mile, 100-day journey to Utah.

For the visitors it was a meaningful sight and it was apparent they were on a sentimental journey of their own—very moving.

## Mailing List

OUR MAILING LIST IS NOW NEAR 1700. WE NEED TO DOUBLE IT IN ORDER TO HAVE REPRESENTATION FOR THE DESCENDANTS OF MILO ANDRUS. PLEASE, SEND IN AUTHENTICATED ADDRESSES USING THE ENCLOSED FORM OR BY EMAIL.



## **Newton & Juletta Andrus Family Reunion**

The posterity of Newton and Juletta Andrus participated in a family reunion at the site of Newton's family homestead in Milo, Idaho, 27 Aug 2005. Newton was the son of Milo and Jane Munday Andrus and one of three brothers and a sister (Josephine, Heber and Robert are the others) who eventually made their home in the Idaho Falls area. Newt and Lettie had ten children: Les, Golden, Zina, Rose, Arveta, LaMar, Verda, Emil, Lois and Ivan. Only Ivan's wife, Jean, and Golden's wife, Norma, are living. Jean was able to attend the reunion.

Festivities began at 11 a.m. at the Milo Ward outdoor pavilion. Name tags were donned, the family database was updated and everyone ate lunch. Things were going very smoothly until the lawn sprinklers came on in the middle of the picnic. However, with a bit of ingenuity that Grandpa Newt would have been proud of all was put in proper order and not a mouthful was missed.

The group was welcomed by reunion chairman Newt Andrus (son of LaMar) who gave a brief life sketch of Grandpa Newt and Grandma Lettie. Then a representative of each of Newt's and Lettie's ten children presented reminiscences from their parents, histories about growing up in southeastern Idaho.

Hyrum recounted the time when his father, Les, was miraculously saved when a shot gun he was cleaning misfired. Les and Golden always went hunting and fishing together and took any excuse to sing along with Ivan and Emil. It was related that Zina was an excellent seamstress who designed and made clothes for herself, her sisters and her daughter, Nita. Renee King Harris told a fun story about her mom, Rose, and Zina, who were very close. They entered the local spelling bee and ended up having to spell off against each other for the championship. After several words each, they agreed to end in a tie.

Lamar's granddaughter, Amy, related how her grandpa always took her on outings to feed the ducks and float toy boats in the irrigation ditch. Sandra Christopherson related how her mother, Verda, told about, the making of washday soup.

Andrea, Emil's daughter, didn't, know Grandpa and Grandma Andrus, but remembers her dad reading the Bible to her when she was young. Judy, Lois's daughter, remembered Grandma Lettie coming to live with them when she was older. She walked with her crutch upside down. Judy also told stories of all the kids swimming in the Snake River and diving off the bridge. Finally, Gayle, Ivan's daughter, told of her dad's love of fishing and singing--traits learned from Newt and Lettie.

Laura Anderson next brought everyone up to date on recent progress in family history research, which was amazing. The reunion ended with the taking of family pictures and a self-guided tour of the family homesteads (Ucon, Milo, Chester, Ora, Popular, Roberts and J Street in Idaho Falls).

All in all it was a fun day and wonderful to reacquaint with all of the cousins in attendance. Much thanks to all who helped bring this part of the family together--Ruela, Sandra, Renee, Nyal, Andrea and Judy.

## **A Milo Andrus Family Reunion in 2007?**

We officially encourage reunions of branches of the family such as the Newton and Juletta Andrus Reunion described in the previous column. We also need to meet occasionally in a gathering representing of all the descendants of Milo Andrus. In the meeting of the Board of Directors on 22 October 2005 a call was made for such a reunion. It was recognized that the planning necessary to make such a gathering a success would take over a year.

Please help us answer these questions.

Where and when should the reunion be held?

What activities will attract and honor older family members?

What activities will attract busy middle-age descendants?

What activities will attract younger members of the family?

What activities will enhance fund raising for research?

What activities will honor the wives of Milo Andrus?

What other questions should we be asking at this time?

## **The Doctrine of Family Togetherness**

Yes, segments of the family should meet together often to renew and establish acquaintances. Working together in family history research, in pleasant family gatherings, in accumulating interesting memorabilia for the publication of books, and the more recent institution of electronic communication are simply ways introducing the kinds of cooperative work we will engage in the future of this life and the next. The Milo Andrus Family Organization takes seriously the need to increase our capacity to work together.

Those who receive this Newsletter share an advantage for Millennial and Celestial advancement. That advantage is membership in a very large family.

## **Picture Book About the Ohio Andrus Family**

Milo had many brothers and sisters who were substantial citizens in North Central Ohio all through the middle of the 19th Century. Some moved to Iowa and other states further west. Information and pictures are being accumulated about the Ruluf and Azuba Andrus Family. Some of this collected material has been posted on our web site. It has been suggested that we incorporate what we have gathered and what will be turned up in the next year or two into a picture book. What are your thoughts?

## **New Biography of Milo?**

Should the Milo Andrus Family Organization engage in the prodigious project of incorporating all the present information, and new information that we can dig into to give a new readable, realistic biography?

Should we include the trials and tribulations of the wives of Milo Andrus without whitewash? Should we touch on the hardships and triumphs of the children of Milo and his wives?

What are your thoughts about how to proceed?



## Extended Ancestry Research on Milo

Milo was part of a family which moved from New York to Ohio before 1920. Before New York they had lived in Vermont. Before Vermont the parents of the family, Ruluf and Azuba either were born in Vermont or in some other New England state. **By gaining all the information possible in Ohio and generating leads to the earlier periods it is hoped that the true identity of Milo's grandparents.** That work will require a lot of concentration and a lot of support.

## Extended Ancestry Research on the Wives

The wife-line representatives listed below have been charged with generating an organization that will undertake an intense effort at learning the full ancestry of each of the wives of Milo Andrus. Readers of this Newsletter know the wife from whom they descend. **Each person who reads this should become expert on family history research and should volunteer to work together with people of the same wife-line to fulfill this responsibility.**

## The Web Site

A clear and present opportunity exists in the electronic media. The young members of the Milo Andrus Family Organization are hereby being recruited to participate in establishing improved communication with all other members of the Family. **You younger folks are needed to train your grandparents and your parents in the techniques of communication that are becoming more and more available.**

During the next six months watch for new features on [www.miloandrus.org](http://www.miloandrus.org).

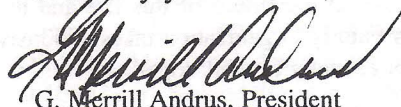
## The Newsletters

As you may have observed, this is the third print Newsletter in 2005. In 2006 there will just be two. We need to contact you in print, but you need to follow what happens in the Family Organization by electronic means.

Monthly and weekly checking of the Web Site should become a habit and routine. Your participation in such communication reception will become more and more useful to us all as time goes by.

**Make your tax-deductible DUES and your tax-deductible DONATIONS FOR RESEARCH to the Milo Andrus Family Organization.** Please use the enclosed form **OR** our web site, [www.miloandrus.org](http://www.miloandrus.org)

Sincerely your brother,



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P. S. Your feedback on your interests and your abilities to help in the work of the Milo Andrus Family Organization will be appreciated. Enclose your comments when you send in the form enclosed with your dues and your contribution to research activity.