



Milo Andrus

Family Organization

Newsletter

Fall 2013

President's Message

We are pleased to announce three new initiatives in the Milo Andrus Family organization:

First initiative: Starting with this edition of the newsletter, we will be sending it by e-mail to all those who have given us their addresses. By sending the news electronically we are able to accelerate communication as well as save funds. Those who prefer the printed copy will continue to receive it by mail.

Second initiative: We have an addition to our website miloandrus.org of the verified family history ancestry. We solicit your family records with the following qualifications:

1) The executive committee and wife-line representative board members will approve all submissions for posting.

In this issue:

⇒ **A tribute to pioneer, Milo Andrus**

⇒ **Membership Dues Renewal Form**

2) Please submit complete family records that contain families where the latest birth date of the youngest child in the family is 110 years old or older. We will not post or publish family group records of any living people.

3) Please only submit records that are verified with the appropriate sources.

4) Please submit through your wife-line representative or a member of the executive committee.

Third initiative: There is a posting on the website of all research we have available to us on the parentage of Ruluf Andrus and Azuba Smith.

Through the years there have been numerous research reports compiled concerning the parents of Ruluf and Azuba. It is our desire to publish them on our website miloandrus.org for all to study. To our knowledge, several theories have been proposed, but none of them have been totally proven or disproven. We encourage all who have

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Need more info?

Go to www.miloandrus.org

Milo Andrus
6 March 1814 -
19 June 1893

Faith of Our Fathers: A Tribute to Pioneer Milo Andrus

By Joyce Marie Jensen Abernathy

On July of 2011, my family and I spent a weekend in Salt Lake City celebrating the life of Milo Andrus, my great-great grandfather, a man heralded as an extraordinary pioneer. As we recounted his life, we honored him with songs and stories, reminiscent of so many, who, through their faith, dedicated their lives to build a land for their posterity.

For seven years, Milo Andrus resided under the warm Dixie sun, a place I now call home, when Brigham Young in early 1874 invited him and other leading men to travel here to southern Utah to initiate a cooperative movement. Their objectives included "the general business of farming, manufacturing, fruit growing, stock raising, dairying, and as many other pursuits as will fulfill the material prosperity of all."

In 1861, when 306 families were asked to move their homes from northern to southern Utah, Milo Andrus had just returned to the Salt Lake Valley after having served a second mission to England. He was not asked to pioneer southern Utah at that time, but he was delighted that his eldest son James was among those requested to break new ground here.

These were hearty pioneer men and women with the "strength of God in their souls." Many of their descendants still live in southern Utah, a place that today has become one of America's fastest growing cities, but one can only imagine what these early settlers thought when they first looked down from the bluffs into the Virgin River Valley seeing few trees and little water, but plenty of black rocks, red sand, rabbit brush, and mesquite. The magnitude of their tasks was great indeed. By the time Milo Andrus arrived, the early settlers had labored for ten years to build a new city. A tabernacle had been built at a cost of \$110,000 and plans were underway to build a temple.

Milo Andrus noted he was "at work on the temple, which is progressing very well. There are over one hundred men engaged directly on the ground, over one hundred working in the quarry, and over forty men at Mount Trumbull getting out lumber. In addition, some men are on the road for the purpose of getting wood, coal, etc."

Milo Andrus frequently spoke in the Tabernacle. His good friend Charles L. Walker, known as "the poet laureate of Dixie," records in his journals 32 instances when he heard Milo speak. He included such comments as "Brother Milo spoke to us in a very interesting manner, showing the importance that the Saints know

for themselves of the divinity of the work in which we are engaged." His knowledge of Church history, the stories of the Book of Mormon, and the importance of unity among the Saints were just some of his remembered sermons.

Music held a special place in the life of Milo Andrus and his family. Over a three-week period when they moved from Salt Lake to St. George, and as they camped along the path, each night before retiring, Milo would lead his family in an evening hymn and help each child say a prayer.

It was a sad day for Milo Andrus and his family when friend George, Q. Cannon, first counselor to President John Taylor, asked him leave Dixie "to strengthen the borders of Zion on Green River." He loved southern Utah and the people loved him. According to historian Ivan J. Barrett, who wrote a biography of Milo Andrus: "From my study of Church history, I ... have found no one among the Mormon colonizers of the West who was a more admired, respected, and sought-after speaker than Milo Andrus."

Incidentally, Milo Andrus carried watermelon seeds with him to Green River and planted the first watermelon there. What a succulent harvest the settlers must have experienced! Even today in Dixie, on a warm summer evening, a watermelon bust is not complete without Green River watermelons.

Before Milo's departure, Walker penned and publicly read aloud an eight-stanza tribute entitled "Charlie's Farewell to Milo." One stanza of particular note reads:

*When I say farewell to thee,
The heartstrings seem to bend:
In parting with our tried and true,
To God, and man, a friend.
Yea, one whose life so nobly spent
For Zion and the weal;
And only those who know the best
Can sense how keen they feel.*

Selected excerpts are taken from the book *Trumpeter of God: Fascinating True Stories of the Great Missionary and Colonizer, Milo Andrus* by Ivan J. Barrett, printed in 1992 and dedicated to the family and descendants of Milo Andrus.

JJ Abernathy may be contacted at jjabernathy38@gmail.com. Portions of this article were published in *The Spectrum*, a Gannett newspaper, on June 19, 2011.

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any research reports to please submit them for publication. We desire to have all the information in one place so that any additions may be available to anyone wishing to help advance the available knowledge without starting from the beginning.

We appreciate all who have worked in the past or are currently serving the family. We also thank all of you for your generous support.

Sincerely,
W. Craig Jensen

Help conserve resources! Get your newsletters and updates online! Visit www.miloandrus.org to find out how!

Milo Andrus Family Organization Reply Form

- Please list me as a sustaining member of the Milo Andrus Family Organization, accepting my dues of \$25.00 (for 2012 dues)
- Please list me as a Century Member (\$100)
- Please list me as a Heritage Member (\$1,000)
- Other Contribution _____
- I am interested in learning about charitable remainder trusts and other ways I can contribute a significant sum to the organization.
- I would like to discuss major contributions with an officer of the organization.
- For future newsletter mailings, I want to help cut print and mailing costs. Please send me an electronic version to the email address below.
- I am interested in getting involved in general research for the organization.
- I am interested in assisting my wife-line representative in family research.
- I live outside the Salt Lake area, but would like to participate in research through the internet.
- Please accept my contribution of _____ for ancestry research work. Please send me a receipt so I can keep track of this donation for tax purposes to the address below.

Annual membership dues of \$25 go to ordinary operating expenses of the organization, including printing and mailing costs, internet fees and media production. All contributions welcome!

Your generous contributions greatly enhance our ability to do more in-depth research, Including document imaging and transcription, DNA testing and travel. Thank You!

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail address _____

I descend from this wife of Milo Andrus _____

Mail form and contribution to:

Steven H. Jensen, Treasurer
Milo Andrus Family Organization
3012 W 3875 S
West Valley City, UT 84119

***You can also make your contribution online using our
PayPal account at www.miloandrus.org***

The Milo Andrus Family Organization Mission:

The Milo Andrus Family Organization seeks out and gathers in descendants of Milo Andrus. We honor our noble heritage. We aim to strengthen binding ties of this heritage through preserving histories, encouraging saving ordinances, promoting open communication and fostering among us the cherished values inherent in the Andrus legacy. Learn more at www.miloandrus.org.

Save the Date!
We're commemorating Milo's 200th birthday
with a grand reunion on June 28, 2014.
Further details to be announced!

Dues Renewal Notice Inside!

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