

ESTABLISHED 1926

MILO ANDRUS

Family Organization

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2021

INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Book Review: *History of the Saints: Zion's Camp 1834 March of Faith*
- Letter from the Editor: What being a descendant of Milo Andrus means to me
- Social media information
- Wife-line representative contact information
- 2021 dues

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all! The world has changed since our last newsletter went out in early 2019. We have all had the opportunity to think about and respond to new, and in some cases, unanticipated circumstances.

One remarkable example that impacted my perspective is the **RootsTech family history conference**. From its inception in 2011, where there were about 3,000 people, attendance has grown substantially for both in-person and remote participation. For the February 2021 conference, RootsTech became a free virtual experience hosted online in 11 languages, with more than 1 million participants from over 235 countries and territories—and most of that experience is still available online 24/7/365. This got me thinking: The **Milo Andrus Family Organization** can grow and progress in two major ways—by increasing our membership numbers and by increasing how our members can participate.

Although the estimated number of **Milo Andrus** descendants is well over 500,000, we have about 1,500 email addresses in our database. Would each of you please send to us three or more valid email addresses for those you know who are descendants of Milo Andrus? Please forward those email addresses to MiloAndrusFamily@gmail.com. This will help us stay connected as we move our newsletter to an electronic-only distribution. We are also looking for a Milo Andrus descendant who has database management experience and the time to oversee our growing database. If you are interested, please email me at president@miloandrus.org.

Our next **Milo Andrus Family Reunion** will be held June 18, 2022. We are just beginning the planning for this event, and we look forward to sharing with you additional proposed activities that are in line with expanding our membership, our value, and our influence for doing good.

I hope you and your families are well and that together we can strengthen the good we do through the blessings we share because of our heritage with Milo Andrus. Aloha (because I was born and raised in Hawaii)!

Vaun B. Andrus

SAVE *the* DATE

—
**MILO ANDRUS
REUNION**

6 . 18 . 22

BOOK REVIEW

HISTORY OF THE SAINTS: ZION'S CAMP 1834 MARCH OF FAITH

By JJ Abernathy

Zion's Camp 1834 March of Faith recounts the remarkable history of approximately 230 men, women, and children who volunteered to march nearly 1000 miles to Missouri, to help rescue lands held by the saints in Jackson County. Many of these saints had been driven into Clay County by violent mobs who stole their lands—lands deemed the promised land of Zion.

Members of **Zion's Camp** were led to believe they would combine forces with state militia as promised by Missouri Governor **Daniel Dunklin** to restore Jackson County lands to the saints. Sadly, support for the Missouri saints and the members of Zion's Camp never materialized, and Zion's Camp, or **Camp of Israel**, as it was also known, eventually disbanded. Despite the trials in such an undertaking, many miracles occurred, and those who participated believed as penned by Joseph Smith to Emma—" . . . the hand of the Lord [was] in it."

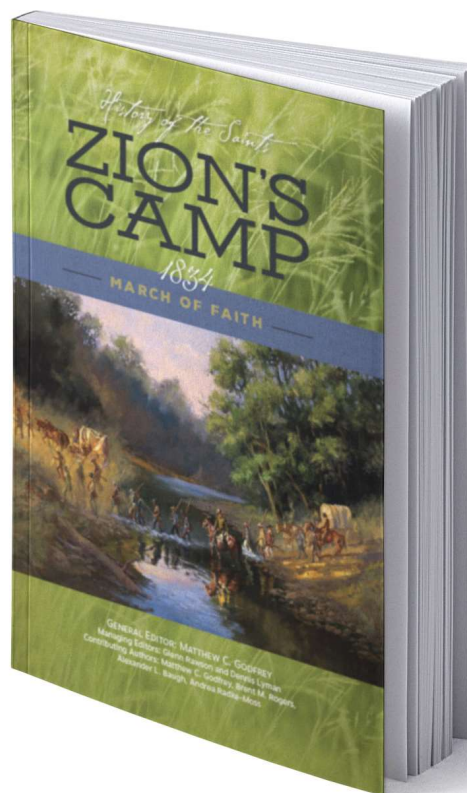
Author and editor, **Matthew C. Godfrey**, states examples of God's intervention in Zions' Camp include the following:

- Inspiring individuals to volunteer for the camp or donate money, or both;
- Providing food and water for participants;
- Chastising participants;
- Healing those who were sick; and
- Providing protection to the camp (manifested most clearly in accounts of a June 1834 storm at Fishing River in Missouri).

Truly, Zion's Camp served as a testing ground and a trial of faith for future leaders of the church.

Our own ancestor, **Milo Andrus**, at age 20, volunteered for Zion's Camp and is listed on the roster of Zion's Camp participants in the book's appendix. In his autobiography, Milo tells of receiving a call from the Prophet Joseph by his brother Hyrum to get ready and go with the company of elders. He says: "We were instructed to labor and get all the money that we could, and to get good rifles and make ready to start by first of May 1834." He writes of "receiving much good instruction from the Prophet Joseph."

Milo further records: "Two weeks after we landed on Fishing River, in Clay County, Missouri, where the



*Curious to know what Milo's Zion's Camp experience was like? You may be interested to read **History of the Saints: Zion's Camp 1834 March of Faith** (2018).*

General Editor: Matthew C. Godfrey

Managing Editors: Glen Rawson and Dennis Lyman

revelation was given June 22, 1834 [Doctrine & Covenants 105] . . . about this time the cholera made its appearance among us, as it had been predicted by the prophet. Thirteen of our good brethren were taken away by the dread monster. The camp broke up partly, and the Saints scattered around and the Lord turned away the scourge. After staying there three weeks, the Lord permitted us to return. We got back to our families the last of September, 1834, care-worn and much fatigued. I had the cholera on the way home, but the Lord healed me, and then we went on our way rejoicing."

Milo became a great leader in establishing Zion, serving numerous missions; assisting in the construction of four temples; leading three wagon trains to Salt Lake City; presiding as a leader in branches, wards, and stakes; serving as president of one of the quorums of the Seventy; chairing the United Order in St. George; colonizing Green River; officiating as a stake patriarch and serving in a number of other leadership positions. Frequently he was referred to as a "Trumpeter of God."

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

WHAT BEING A DESCENDANT OF MILO ANDRUS MEANS TO ME

By Holly Infante

On May 28, 2011, I made a discovery that changed my life. It was the Memorial Holiday weekend, and I was alone—no holiday plans and no gravesites to visit. As I contemplated the holiday, and my loneliness, my thoughts turned to my ancestors. I realized I knew little about my family tree beyond my immediate grandparents. While growing up, I had heard occasional stories, but that day, I wondered: *Who are my ancestors, and how can I know them?* That's when the thought came: *Go downstairs and get the book.*

On the shelf of a tall bookcase in my unfinished basement, I found the burgundy-colored, hard-bound history entitled, ***Milo Andrus, Junior—The Man and His Family***, by Leone Andrus Taylor. As I leafed through the pages, I became riveted. The volume contained stories and photographs, generation by generation. Some of their words included hopes for their posterity—for me. As I traced the family line, I discovered **Milo Andrus** and **Sarah Ann Miles**.

Who is this Milo? I wondered. *And how did he get his name?* In the foreign country where I grew up, Milo was the name of a nutritional powdered drink. I was curious. Then, as I read the history of his second wife, Sarah Ann Miles, my connection was solidified. There were remarkable parallels between her story and mine. I had to learn everything I could about them.

As providence would have it, the next Milo Andrus family reunion was just weeks away. I had never been to one—I didn't know the reunions existed. Come to learn, these reunions have been held regularly since 1921! Through arrangements communicated to me by my mother, I was invited to be part of the reader's theater and read the part of my ancestor, Sarah Ann.

At the June 18 reunion, I was overwhelmed at the size of the gathering and by the many new relatives I met. Yet the loneliness I had felt for months began to subside. The warmth of family associations, the activities, the reader's theater and the music touched me in a way I didn't expect. It was evident that we were all part of something great—the heritage of Milo Andrus. I felt an incredible sense of belonging. I was changed.

I spent the summer taking in everything I could from the Milo Andrus website and other online archives. All of the

reading left me inspired and even more curious. Milo did not have an easy life. He chose to leave home at 16 and make it on his own. He worked hard, decade upon decade to the end of his life. As a young man, he was curious about the Native American artifacts he encountered. When news about gold plates, the Book of Mormon and the history of the ancient American people circulated in his Ohio community, he seized the opportunity to learn more. After he was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1833, he was all-in.

What does it mean to be a descendant of Milo Andrus? What does Milo Andrus mean to me? It means everything! Milo lived a life of faith, obedience, sacrifice and service. He had a can-do spirit and overcame every obstacle—because of his commitment to Christ and to building God's kingdom. That is my heritage—that is our heritage. We are all connected, and if we tap into Milo's can-do spirit, we can overcome or accomplish anything!

What is your connection to Milo Andrus? What does he mean to you? We are interested to hear and share your stories. Please email secretary@miloandrus.org!



Milo Andrus 2011 reunion at Liberty Park in Salt Lake City, following the reader's theater. Holly Infante read the part of Sarah Ann Miles and is pictured with her parents, Patrick and JJ Abernathy. Patrick read the part of Milo Andrus, Jr.

Connect with us online!



Instagram: [milo_andrus_family](#)

Facebook: [Milo Andrus Descendants](#)

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The Milo Andrus Family Organization Newsletter is now a digital-only publication. We would love to hear from you! Please contact us at the following:

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Milo Andrus Family Organization Reply Form

- ☐ Please list me as a sustaining member, accepting my 2021 dues of \$25.
- ☐ Please list me as a Century Member (\$100).
- ☐ Please list me as a Heritage Member (\$1,000).
- ☐ Other Contribution: ____ (2022 Service Day donation).
- ☐ I am interested in learning about ways I can contribute a significant sum to the organization
- ☐ I would like to discuss major contributions with an officer of the organization.
- ☐ I am interested to be involved in Milo Andrus biography 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.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Email:

I descend from this wife of Milo Andrus:

Mail form and contribution to:

Steven Jensen, Treasurer

Milo Andrus Family Organization
3012 West 3875 South
West Valley City, UT 84119

You can also make a contribution via Venmo! Select "Pay or Request" and type 801-860-0147 to add recipient.