



ESTABLISHED 1926

# MILO ANDRUS

## *Family Organization*

NEWSLETTER

# SUMMER 2021

### INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Kathryn Ellis: What being a descendant of Milo Andrus means to me
- 2022 reunion information
- Connect with your wife-line representative
- Help us with social media

# SAVE *the* DATE

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**MILO ANDRUS  
REUNION**

**6.18.22**

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**See details on  
page 4**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**M**y earliest memories include hearing about my great-great-grandpa **Milo Andrus** who had 11 wives and 57 children. I imagined that somewhere in the world I should have many Andrus relatives. Yet growing up in Hawaii and Japan, I don't think I met more than two of them in almost 18 years. Not until I traveled to Utah to attend **Brigham Young University** did I discover where so many of my Andrus relatives had been hiding. Now that I have lived in Utah for more than 38 years, it is a common occurrence to run into a relative, and the conversation usually includes: Which wife are you from? I am from **Jane Munday**.

I recently watched several video clips about the physical and mental health benefits available to us as we connect with family members, past and present, known or newly acquainted. One I recommend is: "**Necessity of Connection for your Mental Health**" by **Amy Nielson**, CMHC. When we learn about our ancestors, and when we connect with people we are related to, our mental and physical health improves.

When we learn more about Milo and the great things he did as he worked through difficult challenges, our self-identity and self-worth are strengthened. We see that the thread of our life is interwoven with the lives of our ancestors, family members, and relatives in a strong, beautiful tapestry. I would like to make these blessings available to as many of Milo's descendants as we can reach. Accordingly, I encourage each of you to gather email addresses for "Milo" descendants and send them to us at [president@miloandrus.org](mailto:president@miloandrus.org).

Looking ahead, I hope you will join us for three special activities in 2022. **RootsTech Connect** will be a completely virtual event held March 3-5. This event is a great opportunity to meet many other Milo Andrus descendants and invite them to our **Milo Andrus Family Reunion** June 18 in Bountiful, Utah. Conditions permitting, our **Milo Andrus Home Annual Cleanup at This is the Place Heritage Park** will be held the latter part of March, date and time still to be determined. Our June reunion will feature in-person and virtual activities so we can have many more people participate.

I pray for your well-being and safety!

Aloha,

*Vaun B. Andrus*

## FROM OUR READERS

### WHAT BEING A DESCENDANT OF MILO ANDRUS MEANS TO ME

By Kathryn Ellis

I am very grateful to be a descendant of **Milo Andrus** and **Mary Ann Webster Andrus**. Though they lived and died many generations before I was born, Milo was as a voice from the dust to me in a time of need.

I was a young mother of three, expecting our fourth little one in the summer of 2018. My husband had just graduated from **Brigham Young University** with two highly employable degrees; namely a masters in mechanical engineering and a masters of business administration. Yet while his classmates all moved away from Provo, Utah, to their diverse careers all over the world, we seemed to be destined to remain put without any real prospects of employment.

At first this seemed a little hiccup in our plans. I had been working fulltime for the university since our marriage six years earlier, and my job provided our family with housing, his tuition, food, insurance and money. Time was ticking, however, and the nature of my employment only allowed for a family of four, and we were now a family of five going on six. We had until the end of my annual contract in July to find a place to live and a way to maintain our little growing family. The stresses of life were mounting and our options felt very limited. My husband often felt discouraged, and being in the early stages of pregnancy, I felt overwhelmed by the unknown.

At this trying time of our lives, my aunt, Julie Seitz, introduced us to the **Milo Andrus Descendants Facebook group**, which I joined. I soon discovered there was a family reunion approaching in June 2018 at **This Is The Place Heritage Park**. We decided to attend, unsure if this would be our last summer in Utah. While at the reunion it became clear that I knew none of those in attendance, yet I was related in some way to each person there. Some of these distant relatives were sweet enough to purchase wristbands for our little family to explore the heritage park and see the **Andrus Halfway House**, which was built in 1858 and relocated to the park in 1980.

It turned out that my children and I were the only family representing the Mary Ann Webster wife-line, and I took on the responsibility to continue to represent our wife line as an official representative in the family



*Mary Ann Webster wife-line descendent, Kathryn Ellis, at a balloon festival in 2018 with her then family of five. Pictured L to R: Kathryn, Elenore, Ezra, Evelyn, and Jeremy. Kathryn is also the wife-line rep for the Milo Andrus Family Organization.*

organization. These experiences fed my desire to learn more about Milo and Mary Ann Andrus.

With my final month as a BYU employee, I used the **Herold B. Lee Library** on campus to check out **Trumpeter of God** by **Ivan J. Barrett**, which detailed Milo's life and service to God. I was enthralled by this written account of my own relatives. Some of the stories were familiar to me as my grandmother, **Bonnie Andrus Kerby**, has a great love for our family history and has often shared stories of our pioneer ancestors with her children and grandchildren. Many stories were new to me though.

The most precious parts of the book to me were those where Milo's own words were recorded—one such portion being while Milo was serving as stake president in St. Louis, Missouri, when he addressed a congregation of saints emigrating from England to Zion.



Although these saints had given up much, he counseled them to remember the good things they had already received and that many others had endured more than they had. Then he said the following, which struck my overwhelmed soul like a lightning bolt: “Your grumbling will rob you of the blessings of the sacrifice.”

This counsel was so timely for me. It truly felt as if my fourth great grandfather were speaking to me from the dust. I knew I needed to focus on the blessings I had, remember others were in more need than I was and that maintaining the best positive attitude I could would make my sacrifices worthwhile.

I am pleased to report that Grandpa Milo was right. Looking back now, I was not always good at remembering to keep a positive outlook through the stresses of morning sickness, moving twice, joblessness through the holidays, nearly a year of job searching, a pre-term baby, and so forth. I did, however, think on his words often, and my husband and I were able to see many miracles through the trials.

Now I look back and see even more the wonderful blessings the Lord gave our family through that period of time. I am grateful I was able to keep my grumbling at bay to more fully enjoy the blessings of our sacrifices.

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## ***Your grumbling will rob you the blessings of the sacrifice.***

— Milo Andrus

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I am proud to be a member of the Milo Andrus family and look forward to sharing his legacy with my children as they grow up.

*Mary Ann Webster was born July 10, 1834, in Windle, Lancashire, England. She became Milo’s fifth wife. Six of their nine children lived to adulthood. She is honored and remembered as a true pioneer mother.*

*What is your connection to Milo Andrus? What does he mean to you? We are interested to hear and share your story. Please email [secretary@miloandrus.org](mailto:secretary@miloandrus.org).*



*Jeremy Ellis with children, Ezra and Evelyn, at the Andrus Halfway House at This Is The Place Heritage Park in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 23, 2018. Jeremy was hired by Northrop Grumman in 2019 and works as a tool engineer.*

# 2022 Reunion

## DATE

Saturday, June 18, 2022

## LOCATION

- Bountiful Chapel Park
- 2285 South 200 West
- Bountiful, Utah, 84010
- 8 miles north of downtown Salt Lake City
- 1 mile from Interstate-15 2600 South exit

## AMENITIES

- Indoor and outdoor facilities
- Large pavilion
- Large softball field
- 5 gas grills
- Large parking area
- Audio/visual link-up for virtual activities

*Send activity suggestions to your wife-line representative or  
President@MiloAndrus.org*

## CONNECT WITH YOUR WIFE-LINE REPRESENTATIVE

Learn more about your extended family and the history you share through your wife-line!

**ABIGAIL DALEY** | RENEE BECKSTEAD  
RENEEBECKSTEAD@HOTMAIL.COM

**SARAH MILES** | COPPER QUIST  
COPPERQUIST@YAHOO.COM

**LUCY LOOMIS** | NOEL MONEY HAZARD  
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## WANT TO HELP?



Instagram: milo\_andrus\_family  
Facebook: Milo Andrus Descendants  
www.miloandrus.org



We're looking for a social media manager to help with content development and social media engagement on Instagram and other social media apps!

For more information, contact  
secretary@miloandrus.org

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

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