

# MILO ANDRUS

## *Family Organization*

### NEWSLETTER

# SPRING 2022

ESTABLISHED 1926

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Matty Abernathy: Temple "Work"
- March 2022 service day brings connection
- Reunion T-shirt/hoodie order details
- New email contact info for family organization

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On display in a prominent place in our home is the word "Grateful." Every time I see it, I am reminded of those I am grateful to and things that I am grateful for. I would like to mention three of many that have impacted my life for good.

My maternal grandmother, **Eva Margaret Vieira Parker** was a pillar of humble faith, and without fail, in every note, letter and conversation we had, reminded me to remember God and Jesus Christ, and to always do the right thing. I learned how to think and the importance of asking questions from my first mission president, **Russell Nozomi Horiuchi**. And from my mother, **Frances Maluhia Waipa Parker Andrus**, I learned that much good can be accomplished by listening and being kind.

I give thanks daily for my wife **Shawna Andrus**, for our two children and their spouses, and our seven grandchildren. I am grateful for my parents and my siblings. I am grateful to **Milo Andrus** and **Jane Munday** as my great-great-grandparents, and for their examples, legacy and heritage which they have passed on to me. Similarly, I am grateful to the other seven couples who are my great-great-grandparents, my four sets of great-grandparents and both sets of grandparents. Because of these people, I am tied to locations, lessons, experiences and cultures.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet you at our upcoming reunion in Bountiful, Utah, on June 18 or in the coming years in person or through technology.

Aloha,

*Vaun B. Andrus*

## 2022 REUNION INFORMATION AND AGENDA

*Be sure to join us Saturday, June 18, for the 2022 Milo Andrus Family Reunion!*  
**2285 South 200 West, Bountiful, Utah, 84010 (Chapel Park) and Virtual Sessions**

*Check Facebook and email for links to virtual sessions*

- 9:00 am:** Arrive, meet and greet
- 10:00 am:** Business meeting, nomination and election of new officers
- 10:30 am:** Wife-line meetings
- 11:30 am:** Lunch served
- 12:30 pm:** Activities/social (some virtual)
- The family organization will provide hamburger, chicken and vegan options on the grill, along with condiments, utensils, etc.
- **Bring a potluck appetizer, salad or dessert to share**
- Photo display, photo booth, T-shirt/hoodie orders and more!

## FROM OUR READERS

### TEMPLE “WORK”

By **Matty Abernathy**

I was desperate and did not want to work construction, but money was tight, and bills were long past due. It was late in the afternoon, and I called the first masonry contractor I could find.



After about a minute, I hung up with an invitation to interview and tentatively start work the next day.

With the little money I had left, I went to the hardware store and purchased a rock hammer, a tape measure, safety glasses, a hardhat and a pair of gloves. I knew the work was going to be excruciating but at least the weather would be pleasant to work in.

My first job with this contractor was a 10-story courthouse; and after a month or two I heard rumors every now and then that our company had the contracts for five temples for **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, and that there were foremen frequenting the job site, scouting in search of putting special crews together.

I was just a helper, or a “hod tender” as they call it. My job was to do all the prep work for the stone masons—everything from assembling scaffolding to moving and cutting stone—and everything in between. It’s a lot, and very much a tall order. Still, I made a commitment to myself to show up 15 minutes early, work really hard and learn as much as I could. I included this desire and hope to be selected in prayer daily, even sometimes thinking I



might be asking too much of the Lord. After all, who was I but the most inexperienced man on the job site.

After a while, I began to doubt, but I stuck to my commitments and prayed—every day. Over time, it became a new prayer. Instead of asking for all sorts of

things I thought I needed, I simply prayed about things I was grateful for in my life. Eventually, the courthouse was completed, and I was sent to work another job. My hopes were dashed. It wasn’t fun. It was very hard.

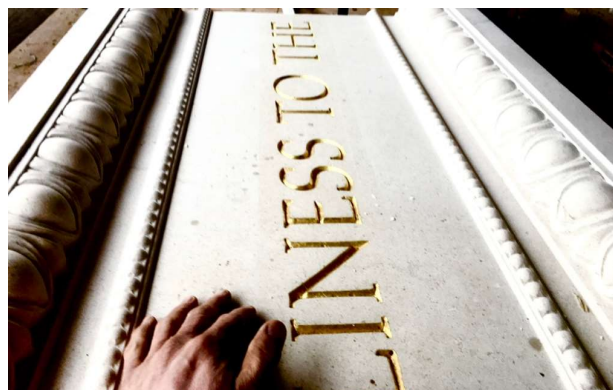
At 46, I was one of the oldest laborers on the job. I often thought what it would have been like had I been chosen to work on temples. Sometimes, in my mind I would pretend, and it would make the time go faster and the work feel a little lighter.



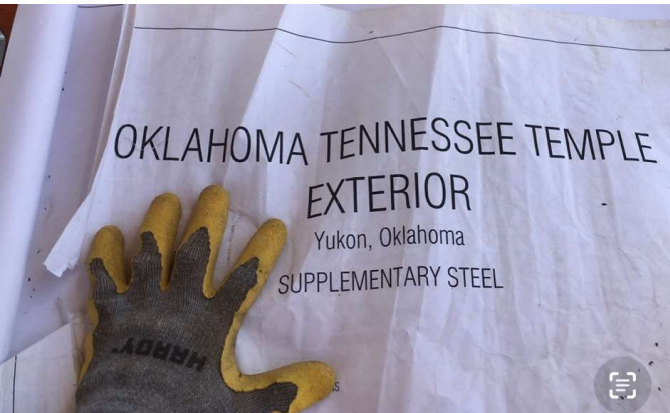
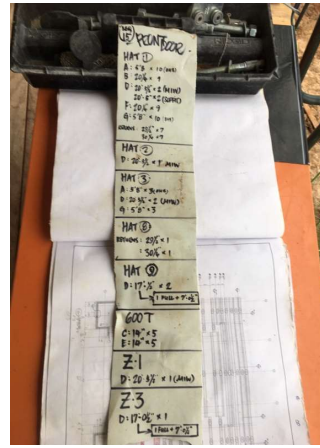
And then one day, after an especially grueling day, standing there by the time clock, covered head to toe in dust and block mortar, I got the call to go home and pack, with instructions to report to a foreman just outside of Oklahoma City, in **Yukon, Oklahoma**.



My job was to cut all the steel that the stone is anchored and fastened to, beautifully and intricately carved in white limestone—







—for the **Oklahoma City** and **Baton Rouge, Louisiana** temples for the Church of Jesus Christ.

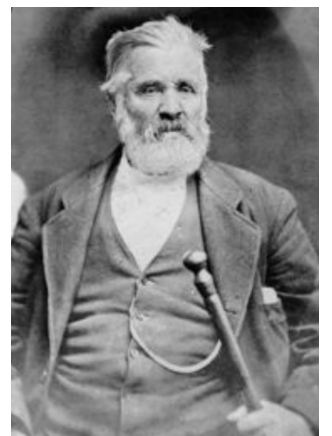
I was in a panic because I had no idea how to read steel plans, or ANY plans for that matter! An old mason took me under his wing and taught me to read the plans—but they made little sense to me.



I prayed day and night, desperately petitioning the Lord for help. I quickly began to exponentially retain information and learn how to navigate through the plans and processes with inspired ease and, pretty soon, I had my own system. I couldn't believe it. I felt awestruck every single day I set foot on the temple job site and watched it all come together. I especially felt the presence of my grandfathers and could even hear their whisperings when I needed help with something I didn't understand.



I came to find that **my Great, Great, Great Grandfather** among many things ALSO worked on temples during his lifetime, and it was by virtue of the Holy Ghost I could feel this correspondence being facilitated between my immediate ancestors and myself. This happened daily and abundantly. The spiritual presence was literally palpable.



There were times when all the masons were too busy to respond to me and I had nowhere else to turn but to our Creator for instruction and guidance. And I received it, in light; in terms, language, stirrings, feelings, and inspiration unique and specifically relative to how I understand and process things. It was a miracle that just kept going.



I'll always remember and be grateful for my Father in Heaven, for hearing my prayers, and answering them in ways I still marvel about every time I think about them.

In the beginning I knew nothing. Who was I to be on a job site with master craftsmen? Yet, there I was, learning how to build not just any house—**The Lord's House.**



*Matty Abernathy is a descendent of Milo Andrus through the Sarah Ann Miles wife line. Following his days in construction, he studied social and behavioral sciences at Utah Valley University and now works as an addiction recovery coach. He is also an accomplished singer-songwriter. He and his wife, Janella, reside in Spanish Fork. All photography provided by Matty Abernathy using an iPhone 6 Plus.*

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



## FROM THE EDITOR

### ANNUAL SERVICE DAY IN SALT LAKE BRINGS CONNECTION AND ACCOMPLISHMENT



*Fifty-four Milo Andrus descendants and family gathered from Utah, Idaho and Wyoming March 26 at the **Milo Andrus** home at **This Is the Place Heritage Park** to carry on the annual tradition of performing a spring service project in honor of Milo Andrus.*

*The idea for a spring service project began with Milo's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday commemoration March 6, 2014. After a two-year pause during the pandemic, it was wonderful to be back!*







*The ideal weather made for an enjoyable time while raking and bagging leaves. Following the grounds clean-up, the Heritage Park informed us about plans to replace the windows, paint the exterior and install an irrigation system to allow for a garden behind the property.*

*Among the attendees was a new-generation **Milo Andrus** from Kaysville, Utah (pictured bottom center). Thank you to all who participated!*





## CONNECT WITH YOUR WIFE-LINE REPRESENTATIVE

Make plans and connect with your wife-line representative at the June 18 reunion!

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

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

**LUCY LOOMIS** | NOEL MONEY HAZARD  
HAZARDNOEL1@GMAIL.COM

**ADELINE ALEXANDER** | GLEN ANDRUS  
GRANDRUS@GMAIL.COM

**MARY ANN WEBSTER** | KATHRYN ELLIS  
SKATESIE@HOTMAIL.COM

**ELIZABETH BROOKS** | BONNIE GODDARD  
NOELHOLLY@Q.COM

**ANN BROOKS** | BONNIE GODDARD  
NOELHOLLY@Q.COM

**JANE MUNDAY** | AMY SNOW  
AMYASNOW@GMAIL.COM

**MARGARET BOYCE** | TRUDA WHITFIELD  
AZ4US2GO@GMAIL.COM

**EMMA COVERT** | BRENT ANDRUS  
PARROTPERC@AOL.COM

**FRANCENIA TUTTLE** | NOEL MONEY HAZARD  
HAZARDNOEL1@GMAIL.COM

## Milo Andrus Family Reunion Shirts Now Available to Order!

[www.GetTheGearVlnk.com](http://www.GetTheGearVlnk.com)

Order before **May 15<sup>th</sup>** and pick them up at the reunion on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

If you can't attend the reunion, have them shipped to your home.

Shirts will also be available to purchase at the reunion.



Design based  
on Milo's  
cattle brand



## NEW EMAIL CONTACT INFO FOR MILO ANDRUS FAMILY ORGANIZATION

The Milo Andrus Family Organization has consolidated the email accounts for the various officers into one email account for all.

To reach a member of the family organization, please send an email to [MILOANDRUSFAMILY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MILOANDRUSFAMILY@GMAIL.COM).

The previous email addresses will not be active after May 31.

Current officers who will be completing their terms with the 2022 reunion are:

**Vaun Andrus**, President  
**Tonia Fuller**, Vice President  
**Steve Jensen**, Treasurer  
**Holly Infante**, Secretary

Nominations for new officers may be emailed to the new email address before the reunion or provided verbally to a member of the family organization.

To review bylaws, visit: <http://miloandrus.org/about-the-organization/bylaws/>.