



BELNAP FAMILY ORGANIZATION

OVERVIEW

Mission Statement: “The Belnap Family Organization is a non-profit ancestral family organization for all descendants of Utah Pioneer Gilbert Belnap, created to preserve, perpetuate, and promote family solidarity.”

ABOUT US

Summary: The Belnap Family Organization (“BFO”) was founded in 1904 to preserve, perpetuate, and promote family solidarity among all descendants of Utah Pioneer Gilbert Belnap (1821-1899) and his two wives, Adaline Knight (1831-1919) and Henrietta McBride (1821-1899). It is one of the oldest and largest family organizations in the United States, with over 12,500 known descendants located throughout the United States and increasingly around the world. Key accomplishments and projects over the past century include:

- Completion of Latter-day Saint temple ordinance work for thousands of relatives;
- Conduct genealogical research in the U.S. and British Isles on Belnap/Belknap and other lines;
- Publication of a regular family newsletter, the *Belnap Family Crier*;
- Publication of *Heritage with Honor* and other family history books; production of family history videos;
- Preservation and digitization of journals, letters, photographs, certifications, and other documents;
- Placement and dedication of the John McBride Belnap monument in Ashland, Saunders, Nebraska;
- Creation of an official website: <https://wp.belnapfamily.org/>;
- Restoration of the Belnap Family burial plot monument in the Ogden City Cemetery;
- Sponsorship of bi-annual reunions (reunions have been held at least 47 times since 1904!).

In 1968 the BFO was recognized by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as one of the best-organized family organizations in existence. Members of the BFO remain active in preserving, perpetuating, and promoting a greater understanding and appreciation of their tremendous pioneer heritage.

Membership: Membership in the BFO is automatic for all descendants of Gilbert Belnap, Adaline Knight, and Henrietta McBride. (“Descendants” is broadly defined to include all natural-born and legally adopted children, as well as sealed persons and biological children adopted by other/non-related parents, together with in-law spouses.) To ensure inclusion in the BFO’s member database, descendants are requested to contact an officer or family representative. Members are also strongly encouraged to contribute life stories, genealogical information on their immediate families, family photographs, and any other items of historical interest to the BFO for preservation in the BFO’s files. Honorary membership has occasionally been granted to others who have impacted the family in a meaningful way.

*Love
Unity
Solidarity*



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DID YOU KNOW?

Over the last 170-plus years, the descendants of Gilbert Belnap and his wives Adaline Knight and Henrietta McBride have scattered to many places around the world. Descendants have been born in at least 48 U.S. states, 2 U.S. territories, and 18 foreign countries (based on available information through Oct 2021).

LINEAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Members of the BFO are entitled to inclusion in the following lineage societies, among others, by virtue of their documented ancestry:

- International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers / National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers
- Daughters of the American Revolution / Sons of the American Revolution
- General Society of Mayflower Descendants (“Mayflower Society”)

DNA PROJECTS

The BFO has recently undertaken a massive autosomal DNA collection project that has begun to break through long-standing brick walls on key collateral lines. To date, nearly 50 autosomal DNA samples have been gathered from great grandchildren of Gilbert Belnap and his two wives to triangulate and maximize matches to newly discovered relatives. The BFO is also engaged in Y-chromosome research projects on the direct male Belnap/Belknap, Knight, and McBride lines.

FIND US ONLINE

The BFO can be reached through the following online and social media resources:

- Internet: <https://wp.belnapfamily.org/> (official web site)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/belnapfamily.org/> (official Facebook page)
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/belnap_family_organization/ (official Instagram feed)
- YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3V_hHGFNZENjwb2Bj1F8KA (official BFO channel)

Or contact us any time by email at belnapfamily.org@gmail.com

Tax Exempt Status

The BFO is registered with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt public charitable organization under the name “Gilbert Belnap Families Genealogical Association,” EIN 23-7373750. It is also registered as a Utah non-profit corporation under the name “Gilbert Belnap Families Genealogical Association” with a D/B/A name of “Belnap Family Organization.”

Last update: 2023-02

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