

# Pugmire



HAIGHT CREEK STAKE | 2012



# TREK

*How Firm A Foundation*

## *Family Journal*

Mark Pugmire  
Kaylene Pugmire

Nataile Tea  
Kyra Forbes  
Mark Blackham  
Gavin Jackson  
Jenna Connell  
Hunter Hanks  
Garrett Gibson

# Pugmire Family



## Mark & Kaylene

**Pioneers We Honored and Remembered on Trek:**

**Maria Peterson**

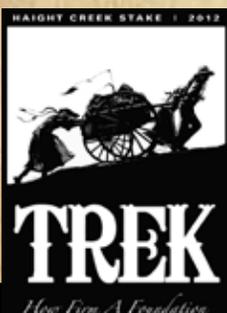
**Jannett Adamson Hutchison**

### **To Our Family:**

From Pa -

I am so grateful for the Trek family that the Lord blessed Kaylene and me with. I could not have hoped for a more cooperative, happy, sensitive to the Spirit group of kids anywhere. I know everyone says they had a great family and great kids, but we had the bests, hands down. We worked together, laughed together, and cried together under the influence of the Spirit. Each one of our kids from the oldest to the youngest made our family perfect. We were always together and hardly spent anytime apart, even during free time. Natalie, our oldest daughter brought a quiet confidence and a worthiness that invited the Spirit, and her laugh and smile brightened up each day for all of us. Kyra was an extremely hard worker that was determined, yet sensitive. Her positive attitude and willingness to help no matter what the task and her desire to make the most out of her Trek experience made our family so much better. Jenna was the youngest at only 13, yet she was always happy to be there in spite of her young age. We all learned how to be positive from Jenna. Garrett was the oldest son and was the lead at pulling the cart. He never took a break and always helped out and made sure that the family was entertained by singing and leading others in song. He was a great example to his younger brothers and was fun to tease. Gavin was happy and smiling even through the tough times going up tough, steep hills. He was always either pulling in front or pushing in the rear. Gavin was moved by the experiences on Trek and his sensitivity touched us all. Hunter was always happy and smiling and

got along great with his other siblings. His willingness to help and push and pull alongside Garrett and join in song were appreciated. When it was time to set up or take down camp, he was always there, the first to offer help. Mark loved everything about Trek and could not decide what was his favorite part. Everything was his favorite. He was always helpful and willing to do whatever he was asked. As our youngest son, he learned from the others and taught them through his stories of



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his family and desire to be a missionary. I grew to love our new little family like I love my own children and was sad that the experience was over. It was tough to let them go back to their own families, but hopefully we'll remain in touch. They brought me closer to the real experience of Trek than I ever could have come on our own.

From Ma-

I love my family! Each one added their own special something to the family. I am grateful for how our family melded together immediately. You would have thought our kids had been friends forever. We pushed, pulled, prayed and played together.

Natalie, Garrett, Gavin, Hunter, Kyra, Mark and Jenna--You are the best! Remember trek, remember and support your trek brothers and sisters, remember that we love you, and remember that your Savior loves you.

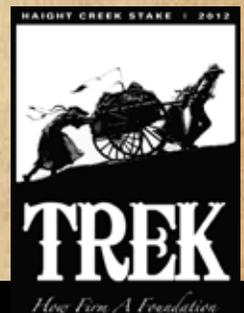
## What We Learned on Trek:

From Pa -

It was confirmed to me that the youth of today are extremely tough and resilient. They are willing to work and love the Lord and His church. They were the best part of my Trek experience as I watched them tough it out and do hard things and prevail every time. I learned of the suffering and pain that our forefathers went through on their journey. The experience I had on Trek brought me so close to my ancestors that I now know them...I'm not just familiar with their struggles, but I know them and can see them pass through them. Because of this I am grateful. As President McKay asked, I am changed now because of my experience. I am a better man because of my wife and her perseverance and example, because of my kids and their love they showed to us, and for the work that was put forth on our behalf by everyone involved. It was truly a blessing to attend and experience in a way we could not have possible done on our own.

From Ma -

I didn't fully appreciate the sacrifices my great, great-grandparents made in coming to Zion. And, I still can't. However, I had a small glimpse into their lives by walking the trail they walked--on the same ground, over the same rivers, rocks and hills. I hope to never forget the feeling I had on Rocky Ridge as I watched Sister Miller pull her husband up the hill in the handcart, and moments later, listened to Brother McKnight sing, "I Need Thee Every Hour." To me it felt as if I was at the funeral for those who had died on that trail. It moved me, and almost everyone else, to tears. I felt profound sadness and gratitude. I thank my ancestors for their faith and hardship. I hope to live worthy of their sacrifice.



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## Our Testimonies:

From Pa -

I know that God lives and that He is our Father in Heaven. I know that his Son, Jesus Christ is my Savior and Redeemer and that through Him atoning for my sins, I can once again live with my Heavenly Parents. I know that the church of Jesus Christ is upon the earth today and is led by a living Prophet, Thomas S. Monson. I love the temple and am grateful that I am sealed to my wife and children for eternity. We are so blessed to live in this time and in this place among the saints of these latter days. Our stake and individual wards are wonderful places of shelter and learning that we can grow in the Gospel together. I know that the Lord gave me this Trek experience because He loves me and my family and wants to build me into a celestial parent both here on earth and through eternity. I have more desire than ever to keep my covenants and be together with my wife and kids forever. Part of the reason is the covenant we made in Rock Creek Hollow. That is a sacred place and a sacred experience to me. I will ever be grateful for the Spirit and experiences I felt there and on Trek. I could not be more grateful for what I saw and remember from that experience. I hope that we can all remember what we learned and felt there and use it for strength in our lives each day to persevere and always do what is right. Of this I testify in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

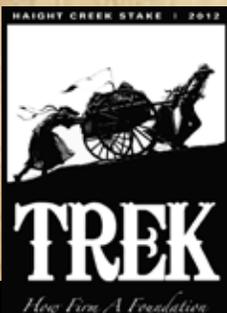
From Ma -

Our Savior lives. He answers prayers. He will bless us with what we need and give us adversity to help us grow. He is always there, through thick and thin. He is our perfect example of how to live each day. I am grateful for the restoration of the gospel. The restoration brought us the power of the priesthood and earthly ordinances to open the gates of Heaven. It gave us our amazing church organization. Our church helps feed the starving masses worldwide and yet is more concerned with the spiritual nourishment of the one, me.

I am grateful for the Book of Mormon. It is truly a gift from heaven for our day. It contains lessons to help us recognize and combat the evil of our day.

I have been given much. I am truly blessed. I hope to keep the faith and that my children (trek kids included) will do the same.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.



# Pugmire Family



## Natalie Tea

### Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:

Rebecca Orme

### To My Family:

Mama and Papa Pug!

I am so grateful that I got to be in your family for trek! I couldn't have asked for better parents. I believe I can speak for the rest of our family in saying that from the very beginning of that bus ride we could feel your love for us and high hopes that this would be a good experience for us. I will always treasure that time that we all had together on

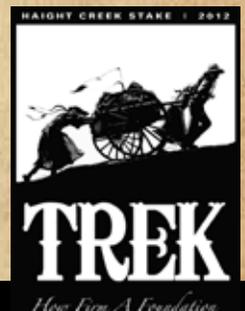
the trail. It's so amazing how close our family could come in such a short amount of time. I think this unity came from your preparation as our ma and pa so long before trek even began. It was apparent that the Lord granted those prayers and made our family such a good team physically pulling the cart and spiritually gaining testimony. I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to be on trek with you two, to learn from your testimonies and wisdom, to laugh and play games and to be so loved! I couldn't have asked for better thank you so very much!

Love your daughter,  
Natalie

### What I Learned on Trek:

In previous weeks before going on trek I had been toying with the idea of going on a mission. My bishop gives the girls three rules 1. Prepare like you are going 2. Don't feel pressured into going 3. Don't rule it out. I had heard this speech a hundred times but my last interview it really struck me. Through out trek I could find parallels to feelings I imagine I would feel on a mission. At the beginning I thought to myself what have I signed up for? I was nervous. It was a struggle, it was physically and spiritually demanding and the pace never let up. But as more time passed I became more accustomed to it, I loved the people there, I loved the spirit of what we were doing there and the testimony I was gaining. By the end of trek if I didn't need a shower so bad I would have never wanted to leave. But most of all, it was worth every second of it.

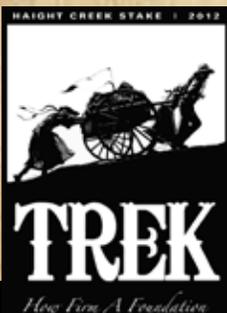
Now if the opportunity comes to me I would love to be able to serve a mission for the Lord.



# Pugmire Family

## My Testimony:

I know that Jesus Christ is my Savior and Redeemer. I know that he suffered anything and everything that we may suffer in our lives and that He is just waiting for us to humble ourselves and go to Him for His help and mercy He will deliver us. I know that the Lord has a divine plan for us and that the trials and struggles we go through are preparation for the amazing things the Lord has in store for us. I know that the Book of Mormon is true. It is a divine book full of wisdom, comfort, promises and blessing that can be ours if we but open up its pages. I know that this gospel is true and eternal and that it is the one and only way to make it back to our Father in heaven. I am so grateful for this knowledge and I bear witness of these things in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



# Pugmire Family



## Garrett Gibson

**Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:**

**William Monroe Pope**

**To My Family:**

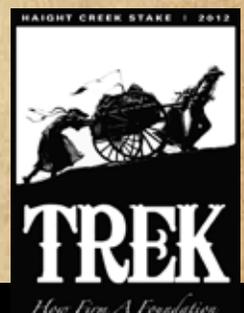
I am grateful for the family that I was in. I learned a lot and was grateful that everyone was so willing to help. I am very happy with the family that I had.

**What I Learned on Trek:**

I learned that I could do hard things. Even if it seems like it will be hard, we just need to have faith.

**My Testimony:**

I know that this is the true church. I know that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God and that he did restore the church. I know that Thomas S. Monson is the prophet of the church. I know that Jesus lives and that he has a body and I know that he died to pay for my sins. I am grateful that I was able to be born into the church and I know that Jesus loves me. I say these things in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.



# Pugmire Family



## Hunter Hanks

### **Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:**

**John Smith**

### **To My Family:**

You guys made trek the best experience anyone could possible have on trek. I couldn't have asked for better parents. I am so grateful for all the hard work that you have put into trek so that I could have a great experience. You were always happy and supportive. You had the best ideas and the best treats!! I loved doing the compliment cards for our family. I think it helped us

become more united. All the stories that you told were so awesome, and I learned a ton. I'm so excited to come back and have our little family reunion party. Thank you so much for making this the ultimate trek experience. I know that my testimony has grown because of you.

Thanks for being the best Ma and Pa ever.

P.S. That spray bottle saved my life!!  
So thanks for bringing it!

### **What I Learned on Trek:**

I learned so many things on trek. Like how important this gospel is to me and everyone else. How the pioneers scarified so much to be able to worship and not have to worry about being persecuted. How no matter what happens we can get through hard things. And how dreams can help write talks. I learned that my family was the best and I am so grateful and recognize now all the little blessings I have in my life. Trek has been a great eye opener for me.

### **My Testimony:**

I know that this church is the true church. I know that Thomas S. Monson is a true prophet. I know and testify that the scriptures are the word of God, and I know if we read the words it will teach us how to live happier lives. I know that my family will be together forever. I love what this church has taught me. I know that if we keep the commandments we will be happy and live with God again. I know that Jesus is our savior and redeemer. I know that Joseph Smith translated the book of Mormon through the Holy Ghost. I love this gospel and I love my family. This church is true, in the name of Jesus Christ amen.

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## Kyra Forbes

### Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:

**Sariah Anna Johnson Eager Workman**

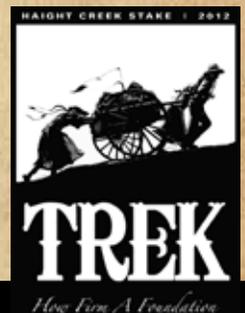
### To My Family:

I loved being in your family so much! Ma and Pa, you guys were absolutely wonderful! You did a great job at taking care of our family. You guys were so sweet, uplifting, fun, and entertaining. Thank you for all that you did for us! Natalie, you are a great example, and have great advice. Garrett, you are so fun to be around, and so nice and caring to everyone. Hunter, you

are so great at making sure everyone is taken care of and included and are super funny and kind. Gavin, you have such a great spirit and are compassionate towards everyone. Mark, you have such a great sense of humor and are great to play games with. Jenna, you are so considerate of others and really fun and competitive. You guys were all so helpful and wonderful parts of our family. I really enjoyed being a part of this family and I really do love you all. Thank you all so much for making Trek such a great experience with lots of fun and spiritual memories.

### What I Learned on Trek:

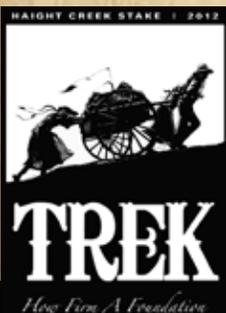
I learned lots of different things on Trek- everything from learning how to play Ripple to learning what the pioneers went through. I learned that we can do hard things if we put our minds to it. I also learned that you need to endure through hard times even if you think that you can't. I learned that we are all stronger than we think we are and that through Christ we can do anything. I learned that through teamwork and helping each other, we can not only do hard things, but we can have fun and become closer while doing it. Also, being a good, strong, uplifting family can really make your life a lot easier and happier. I learned that the pioneers really did go through hard times, but they still kept going even when it was hard to. Even through many physical, mental, and spiritual trials and challenges they pressed on to achieve their goal. The pioneers are great examples to me in my life now. I learned, through the pioneers examples, that we need to trust in God and hold true to our faith, regardless of the circumstances, and I know that if we do that, God will help us through and deliver us from our trials and tribulations in life.



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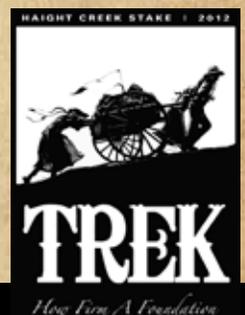
## My Testimony:

I have a testimony that Jesus Christ lives and loves us all. I know that he loves us all more than we can ever imagine. I know that he knows and loves us individually and knows specifically what we are each going through. I know that Christ knows all of our thoughts, feelings, and intentions. I know that he bore each of our sins and pains because he loves us so much. I know that the Spirit is real and gives us good, true promptings. And if we follow these promptings, it will bless our lives as well as others'. I know that Joseph Smith is a truly faithful servant of God. I know that he really did see Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. I know that he really restored the true church and really translated the Book of Mormon as well. I know that he restored the priesthood on the earth for our benefit today. I know that the priesthood is real and can truly bring about miracles. I also know the truth of the plan of salvation; I know that we will be able to see all of our loved ones again, and if we are faithful, we will be able to live with Him again. I know that if we are obedient to His commandments, try to be like the Savior, and make good choices, the Holy Ghost can be with us. I know that the Holy Ghost wants to be with us and will always lead us in the right direction. I know that the Book of Mormon is true and that the prophets of old really did know of the coming of Christ. They were sincerely faithful, brave, and trusted in the Lord with all of their might. I know that if we have faith in the Lord he will bless us and bring us peace. I know that if we pray sincerely, and trust that he will help us, he will. I know that Heavenly Father always appreciates and answers your prayers even if you don't realize it. I know this because I have had my prayers answered many times no matter how big or important it was at the time. I know that Heavenly Father cares for us and I know that we are each very important to him. I know that having the Spirit with you is a great feeling and it can really change who you are and who you will become. I know that in your hardest times, if you pray and trust in Christ, he will answer your prayers and the Holy Ghost will help you make the right choices. I know that the choices that you make as a teenager will affect your whole life. I know that the kind of friends have will affect how you act, how you treat people, the kind of choices you make, the kind of spirit you will have with you, and who you will become. I know that if you have the right perspective and focus on Christ, your life will be easier and happier. Also, you will be a nicer, happier, more uplifting, and more Christ like person when you have the right perspective and include Christ in your everyday life. I know that always setting a good example wherever you are is very important because you never know who is watching and who will want to be more like you. I know that Christ will always be there for me no matter what. He will always have his arm stretched out for me and it is my choice whether I will take it or not. But I know that if I take His hand, he will help me make the right choices that I need to make in order to make it back to Christ and Heavenly Father someday. I know that Christ loves me and everyone else, and wants us all to keep his commandments, make good choices, and let Him into our lives and hearts. I know that when we make good choices, He is happy and proud of us. I know that this is a true church, and it makes my life better. I know that I agreed to come down to this earth, knowing that it would be hard, but was eager to try it and make it back to



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Him. I know that each individual on this earth made that same choice and can also make it back to Him one day. I know that President Monson is a true and living prophet today and that he, as well as other church leaders, gives us advice and revelation from God that we need to listen to in order to be successful in life and stay on the right path. I know that our trials strengthen us and make us better people in the end. I know that He will never give us any trial that he doesn't think we can handle. I know that he truly loves us and wants us to make it back to him. I know that Heavenly Father is merciful and gives us help so that we can come back to him. I know that when we sin and don't follow His commandments, it really makes him sad and disappointed. I know that He tries everything he can to bring us back to the truth and to him when we sin. But when we do the right things and keep the commandments he is very happy and pours out blessings on us. I know that the Pioneers had great faith and endurance and they are truly examples to me. I know that trying to be like Christ and love everyone really makes a difference in our lives and makes a happier, more peaceful environment. I know that if you listen to uplifting music it is truly powerful and is like a prayer to God. I know that there are people that are placed in your life that are like your own personal "guardian angles" on the earth. I know that they are there to protect you, help you make right choices, and most importantly make you the happiest that you can be. You might not know who they are but I promise that everyone has them and that you are someone else's guardian angel. This is Heavenly Father's way of telling you that you are special and that he loves you and is watching over you. I know that my Savior knows and loves me and I really do love him. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.



# Pugmire Family



## Gavin Jackson

**Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:**

**Moses Wade**

### **To My Family:**

I am so glad you guys were my ma and pa, I thought at first that I was going to get people in my family that I didn't know and it was going to be awkward the entire time with no one speaking to each other. Instead you guys made it so all of us warmed up to each other and we all became super duper close.

### **What I Learned on Trek:**

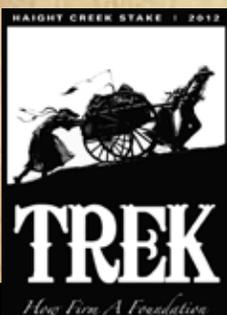
NEVER LET SOMEONE GO THROUGH SOMETHING HARD ALONE.

NEVER LEAVE THE BURDEN ON ONE PERSON.

AND NEVER BE RUDE AND SIT AND WATCH TO A WOMEN GO THROUGH SOMETHING HARD, BUT INSTEAD HELP THEM.

### **My Testimony:**

This was the very jumpstart I needed on my testimony because my testimony hasn't grown in years I've always had the primary answer down but nothing else. But now I do, I know that there is always a way to do something the Lord wants to do and he will always make a way. I know that everyone is not alone to face trials that you will always and I mean always have the Lord to pray to and ask for help. I know that women should never ever endure something hard without help from someone. I know that because of the pioneers traveling to Utah that this is one of the most important reasons why the church is here today. I know that the pioneer went through a very hard time traveling to Utah and they always kept their faith.



# Pugmire Family



## Mark Blackham

### Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:

**John Jacob Zundel  
John Blackham**

### To My Family:

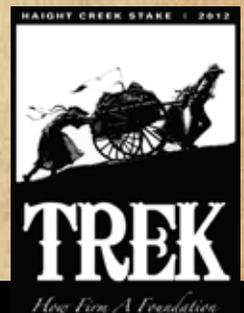
You guys are so awesome! Thank you so much for helping me to have the best Trek experience ever! I will always remember the fun times we had together and the things we learned with each other. You guys rock! I think you guys are great!

### What I Learned on Trek:

On Trek, I learned to work hard. I learned that if we work together, we can get a lot more done. I learned that the Lord is always near and He will always help you no matter where you are or what you need. I learned that you can get to know people you've never met when you push a handcart with them. I learned that James Bond can use a handcart, and I learned that some people find apple juice sacred.

### My Testimony:

I know that this church is true. I know that trek has built my testimony and made me a better person. I know that the Lord is always there and he will always help me with whatever I need. I know the scriptures are true, and I know that Thomas S. Monson is our prophet. In the name of Jesus Christ amen.



# Pugmire Family



## Jenna Connell

### Pioneer Name I Honored and Remembered on Trek:

**Ann Evans Tovey**

### To My Family:

I am so glad that you guys could be my ma and pa. I had so much fun with you as my ma and pa. I don't think I would have changed one moment even if I could. Thank you so much for letting me be a part of your family.

### What I Learned on Trek:

One of the most important things I learned on trek was how grateful I am for everything in my life. I learned how not to take for granted those little things we don't notice from day to day. I learned how to love and know people better just as Jesus Christ does. I also learned a lot about my heritage and how much my ancestors mean to me. If it wasn't for them I wouldn't be here right now.

### My Testimony:

I know that my Savior lived and died for us. I know that Joseph Smith restored the gospel and the Thomas S. Monson is a prophet of God. I know this church is true. I also know that if we follow the Lord's commandments we will be blessed in our lives. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

