

once they return home.

President Monson's statement during conference was the first time the fund has been announced over the pulpit by the prophet. That, coupled with the growing demand on the fund, will most likely lead to an increase in donations, Elder Walker said.

"We still have people coming into the Church, and we've not nearly satisfied the needs in many areas," he said. Citing the counsel from President Howard W. Hunter (1907–1995) in 1994 that all worthy members carry a temple recommend,¹ he continued, "We have many faithful members of the Church who have current temple recommends but who have not yet been to a temple and don't have an immediate prospect of going to the temple."

Elder Walker said President Monson's announcement of the fund came from his love for temples and his sensitivity to the Saints who are the primary beneficiaries of the fund.

"When you go to these far-away places, you get the feel for the people and the challenges they have," Elder Walker said. "This fund will be to the blessing of many people." ■

NOTE

1. See Howard W. Hunter, "The Great Symbol of Our Membership," *Tambuli*, Nov. 1994, 6; *Ensign*, Oct. 1994, 2.

RootsTech 2012 Registration Now Available

By Philip M. Volmar

Church News and Events

Gamification. Cloud-based solutions. GPS-based genealogy. The terms may sound like something straight out of a science fiction book, but these are just a few of the topics genealogists and technologists can expect to cover at RootsTech 2012, which is scheduled for February 2–4 at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.

Registration, which is available online only, is now open for the event at rootstech.org. Participants may register for conference passes for \$189. Also available are \$79 day passes and \$35 student passes. Visit the RootsTech website for full details about registration and session offerings.

The conference will bring genealogy technology users and creators together to learn, collaborate, and shape the future of family history, a market whose consumer interest has been growing rapidly in recent years.

Those interested in attending

can expect engaging classroom presentations; expert panel discussions; hands-on workshops; and informal, participant-led conferencing. Topics include GPS and geo-mapping, mobile devices, social applications, imaging, and visualization.

RootsTech 2011 set a precedent as a conference for genealogy technology users who are progressive, forward-thinking, and early adopters of devices and tools that simplify family history research. The conference drew more than 3,000 attendees in its inaugural year.

RootsTech is designed to bring technologists together with genealogists to learn from each other and find solutions to the challenges family history researchers face today. The conference's activities and offerings are focused on content that will help genealogists and family historians discover new research tools while enabling technology creators to learn the latest development techniques from industry leaders and pioneers. ■

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