

Newsletter

SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF MORMON LIFE (SSSML)

Volume 4, No. 2

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ELECTION RESULTS

About 30% of the total membership voted in the election that was held during February and March. One ballot carried the name of a write-in candidate as an alternative to one of the council candidates on the slate proposed by the Elections Committee. With that exception, the proposed slate was unanimously elected. As a result of that election, the new officers of our organization will be: PRESIDENT: James T. Duke, BYU; VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT: Marie Cornwall, University of Minnesota; SECRETARY-TREASURER: Rosemary S. Bahr, BYU; and COUNCIL MEMBERS: Harold T. Christensen, La Jolla, California; Clark S. Knowlton, University of Utah; and Gary Shepherd, Oakland University (Michigan). These new officers will officially take office at our annual meeting in San Francisco next September 5th. Speaking of which...

ANNUAL MEETING

The official annual meeting of the SSSML will be held on Sunday, September 5, 1982, at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The exact time, room, and program will be announced in the next issue of this Newsletter during the summer. As always, SSSML will be meeting in conjunction with the overlapping annual conventions of the ASA and SSSP. We have been offered space, a time-slot, and some publicity by the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP), and so that is why we are meeting in their hotel (the Sheraton-Palace). NOTICE, HOWEVER, that the ASA meetings start the very next day (September 6th) in the San Francisco Hilton Hotel, not far away. We hope particularly that our SSSML members living in the far west will make an effort to come to San Francisco for these meetings over Labor Day weekend. As a gesture of appreciation to SSSP for giving us time and space, we hope that everyone coming to any of these professional meetings (SSSML, SSSP, and/or ASA) will elect to stay in the SSSP hotel (Sheraton-Palace). We have not yet put together a program for our September 5th meeting, but we will be doing so shortly. Meanwhile, we would really appreciate suggestions from the membership. Would you like another "author-meets-critic" format, like last year's? If so, what author(s) and critic(s)? Would you like a speaker or panel on a given topic? If so, what topic? (Changing Sex-Role Attitudes and Behavior in Mormon Culture - i.e., Is There Life After ERA? has been suggested. Any other suggestions?) PLEASE DO NOT BE SHY about suggesting something of your own. Direct all

suggestions to Armand Mauss, current president, for consideration by the Council.

MORE IMMINENT MEETINGS

In an unusual (and we hope unrepeated) coincidence, the Western Social Science Association and the Pacific Sociological Association are meeting at exactly the same time this year (April 21-24), but in widely separated locations. Both conferences feature panels and papers on Mormon topics, and we hope that SSSML members will be able to attend one or the other. The WSSA will be meeting at the downtown Holiday Inn in Denver and will include a panel entitled "Sociology of Mormonism" with the following participants:

Chair: James T. Duke, BYU

Discussant: Vernon W. Larsen, BYU

Papers:

1) "Mormon Values as Revealed by a Content-Analysis of Official Church Teaching Materials," by Richley H. Crapo and Sharon D. Cannon, Utah State University.

2) "A Return to Individual Responsibility: The New Mormon Therapists," by Genevieve and Arturo De Hoyos, BYU.

3) "An Empirically-Based Theory of Mormon Religious Behavior," by William W. Reeder, Cornell University.

The PSA will be meeting at the Holiday Inn on the Embarcadero, San Diego, and will include a panel entitled "Mormon Subculture: Development and Directions," on Saturday morning, April 24th, at 10:00 a.m., with the following participants:

Chair: Rosemary S. Bahr, BYU

Discussant: Stan Weed, Research & Evaluation, LDS Church Papers:

1) "Preliminary Overview of the Processes of Mormon Religious Disaffiliation," by Stan L. Albrecht, BYU; Brian Pitcher, Utah State University; Marie Cornwall, University of Minnesota; and Perry Cunningham and Carolyn Mulligan, both of Research & Evaluation, LDS Church.

2) "Mormon Sex-Role Values as Revealed by a Content-Analysis of Official Church Teaching Materials for Male vs. Female Adults: A Comparison," by Richley H. Crapo, Utah State University.

3) "Potential Future Affiliation," by Glenn M. Vernon, University of Utah.

4) "Family Size and Contraceptive Use Among Mormons," by Tim Heaton and Sandra Calkins, BYU.

Papers on other topics will also be given at the PSA meetings by SSSML members Kay Gillespie (on jack-rabbit drives and public opinion); Armand Mauss (on the future of the women's movement); Jim Richardson (three co-authored papers on forensic sociology, sociological research on change of venue, and on revisions of orthodoxy in the Jesus Movement); and by Ted C. Smith (on social supports and arthritic patients). We hope that many SSSML members will find it possible to attend these PSA meetings in San Diego, and/or those of the WSSA in Denver. They both promise to be really interesting.

The Mormon History Association will be meeting this year between May 6th and 9th at Weber State College in Ogden, Utah. A variety of sessions will be offered on some fascinating topics, including Mormon intellectual history, family life history (LDS vs. RLDS), images of Mormons in films, historical perspectives on Mormon singles, feminism in Mormon history, Mormons in the Third World, anti-Mormon activity, etc., etc. For more information, write to the MHA at P.O. Box 7010, University Station, Provo, Utah 84602.

OTHER SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

Besides the Mormon History Association, there are two (overlapping) anthropology enterprises that SSSML members will want to know about. The first is FARMS (Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies), P.O. Box 7113, University Station, Provo, Utah 84602. FARMS is a non-profit research and educational foundation dedicated to the study of ancient scripture, not only from linguistic and archeological perspectives but from other disciplines as well. FARMS publishes an occasional Newsletter and has a long list of reprints and reports on such subjects by various scholars, all of which can be obtained via inquiry to the above address. The Department of Anthropology at BYU (940 SWKT, BYU, Provo 84602) also publishes an occasional Newsletter entitled "Mormon Anthropology," which contains interesting news on a surprising variety of archeological digs and other ongoing anthropological projects of interest to social scientists. You can get on the mailing list for this Newsletter simply for the asking (via above BYU address).

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. TERESA MIZE (54-D North Fairway, Pullman, WA 99163) would like to hear from anyone who is doing research, or otherwise shares her interests, in the subject of PSYCHIC, SPIRITUAL, OR FAITH HEALING. Her interests are both historical and spiritual or theological. She is interested in data or studies from all cultural, religious, or ethnic settings, not just Mormon, though she is concerned too about the implications for Mormon doctrine of demonstrated healings accomplished in a variety of non-medical ways inside and outside the Mormon setting.
2. GLENN M. VERNON, one of the founding fathers of SSSML, has for years published

a variety of materials under the auspices of his Association for the Study of Sociology, Inc. Among these has been a periodical issued annually under the title Measuring Mormonism. Glenn would like our membership to know that he has some back issues of MM available, except for Volume 3 (1976), which is out of print. The available back issues, and their respective contents, are listed on the following page. One copy of each of these five can be obtained for a total of \$7.00, as a special offer to SSSML members. Send your check for \$7.00 to Glenn M. Vernon, Association for the Study of Sociology, 3646 East 3580 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84109, and get all five of the back issues of MM listed on the next page.

AVAILABLE BACK ISSUES OF Measuring Mormonism

Volume 1 (1974)

A Factor-Analytic Study of Male-Female Differences in Mormon Religiosity Jerry D. Cardwell
Don B. Lindsey

Campus Religious Group Participation and Dogmatism as Factors Related to Changes in Religious Commitment of Mormon College Students Gary E. Madsen

Mental Health of Proselyting Missionaries Marie L.S. Lassey

Volume 2 (1975)

Monday Night Among the Mormons: Religiosity and Family Home Evening Practices
Armand L. Mauss Gordon E. Mauss

Mormon Adolescents View Their Families Evan T. Peterson

"But I am Different at Work": A Study of the Variability of Leadership Style
William G. Dyer Robert Quinn

From Dixie Wine to Mini-Bottles: Some Spatial Aspects of Drink and Drinking Richard W. Travis
David C. Doepner

Volume 4 (1977)

The Impact of Religious Affiliation on Equal Employment Opportunity in Utah State Government Thomas H. Kemp

Cooperation and Collectivism: Mormon Responses to American Capitalism O. Kendall White, Jr.

A Comparison of Mormon and Non-Mormon Faculty Religiosity Clifton Amundsen
Gary E. Madsen

A Research Note on Religion and Delinquency: The Mormons Gary F. Jensen

Volume 5 (1979)

A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Mormon Missionary Success Jon P. Alston David Johnson

The Religiosity of Mormon Academicians Granger C. Peck

Utah's Liberal Drug Politics: Mormons, Morality and Marihuana John F. Galliher Linda Basilick

Research Note Don B. Center

Volume 6 (1980)

On My Being a Mormon Nels Anderson Introduction by Armand L. Mauss

Empirical Indicators of the Religious Effects of Mormonism

Upon the Family and Community in Utah Mark W. Weigand

Measuring Mormonism: A Content Analysis of Mormon General

Conference Addresses Gary Shepherd Gordon Shepherd

Research Note: Expressed Values in Mate Selection of a Non-Representative Sample of Ricks College Students Richard J. Hooton Lynn E. Smith

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Many SSSML members (including some brand new ones) filled out the news sheets about themselves to send back with their annual dues, so that we have a good record of the interests and activities of our membership (which is now approaching 100). So many were received, in fact, that it will not be possible to summarize them all in this Newsletter. However, we will proceed alphabetically, and cover the second part of the alphabet in the next issue of this Newsletter, due out in early summer. The addresses of those were being highlighted here will not be included, since the full names and addresses of all but the newest members were included in the last Newsletter (February, 1982). However, if you see the name of anyone here whom you would like to contact to explore mutual interests, and you don't have an address, just drop a line to Armand Mauss (Department of Sociology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164), and he will put you in touch with the other SSSML member in question. Here, then, are the latest interests and activities of some of our members:

C. LeROY ANDERSON is studying Mormon conflict and schisms via adaptations of the Simmel-Merton proposition on conflict intensity. Just published (1982) by Utah State University Press is his definitive work on the Mormon schismatic group known as the Morrisites: For Christ Will Come Tomorrow: The Saga of the Morrisites.

LEONARD J. ARRINGTON, recently LDS Church Historian and now Director of the

new J.F. Smith Institute of Mormon History at BYU, is at work on a definitive biography of Brigham Young, but, as we know, Leonard has a way of churning out Mormon history books and articles on many topics as he goes along!

ROSEMARY BAHR, who is chairing our SSSML session at the forthcoming PSA meetings, is involved in research on women's issues in the Mormon setting and has interests besides in the issues of race relations and evolution.

WILFRID C. BAILEY is an anthropologist at the University of Georgia, for the information of any who would like to make contact with him on anthropological matters.

DAVIS BITTON, closely associated with Leonard Arrington in church history scholarship and himself the author of several distinguished works, is currently studying reports of dreams collected from Mormon diaries. He is interested in comparing notes with others and in adding to his current collection of 450 dream accounts. He will be presenting a paper on the subject at the MHA meetings next month, and he welcomes ideas from others about analytical schemes for studying the dreams.

JEFFREY M. BRADSHAW is a graduate student in clinical psychology at the University of Washington, with interests in religiosity and mental health, the interface between religious and psychological approaches to psychotherapy, and in social networking among Mormons.

B.Y. CARD, who moves back and forth between Alberta and Utah (BYU), is studying the mutual cultural and technological influences between western Canada and the western U.S., including particularly Utah and Mormon participation in those influences.

MARJORIE DRAPER CONDOR is completing her undergraduate degree and preparing for graduate work in sociology this year at the University of Utah. She is interested in pursuing the study of changing conceptions and roles regarding women in Mormon culture, with special focus on the process by which Victorian values seem to have been institutionalized in Mormon culture around the turn of the century. She was recently listed in Who's Who Among American College Students.

MARIE CORNWALL is finishing her Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Minnesota. Her chief research interests focus on the functions of social networks among Mormons in the creation and maintenance of meaning systems, in the maintenance of religious commitment, and in helping to cope with crises and maintain physical and mental health.

PERRY H. CUNNINGHAM is helping to direct a study of religious activity/ inactivity and religious development among Mormons. His specific interests deal with the various "costs" of religious participation (time, money, etc.).

JAMES T. DUKE is helping to direct an ambitious study of the conversion process among Mormons across cultures, and he is also doing the data analysis and writing up of the

results of a 1980 study of Mormon family life.

ERIC FOUCART is at work on a Ph.D. dissertation on Mormonism in the Province of Quebec (at University Laval). Eric is in history, but he has a colleague in sociology at the same university who is also a member of SSSML, and that is JEAN-PAUL MONTMINY. Both Eric and Jean-Paul have their interest in Quebecois Mormons as part of a larger interest in new religious sects and movements, on which subject both have recently produced professional publications in the French language.

RICHARD S. GODFREY comes into SSSML via a combined interest in sociology and nursing.

LARRY J. HALFORD is a colleague and coauthor with C. LeRoy Anderson (see above) in research and publications on the topic of Mormon schismatics, and is interested too in intergroup conflict involving Mormons, especially during the 19th century.

NADINE HANSEN is soon to graduate in economics and religious studies and will be entering law school. Pursuing her interests in the status and role of the Mormon woman, Nadine has an article on women and the priesthood in the very next issue of Dialogue, due out momentarily.

DOUGLAS AND JANET HOOPER, charter members of SSSML from whom we hadn't heard in a while, turn out to be alive and well in Billings, Montana, where Doug now works for Mountain West Research.

JEFFREY C. JACOB, at the University of Calgary, is interested in Mormonism and social justice, and in Chicanos and Hispanics within or without the Mormon setting. Apart from his Mormon interests, he is currently studying new communities of "back-to-the-land" people and small holder groups built on technological self-reliance. In a recent (1981) publication in the British Journal of the Sociology of Education, he has proposed a reconceptualization of stratification theory.

JEFFREY O. JOHNSON is a historian with interests in Mormon women, single Mormons, and Native American Indians. At the MHA meeting next month, he will be presenting a paper on single Mormon men, and he is anxious to make contact with others studying single men, Mormon or non-Mormon.

SHIGEO H. KANDA is looking for colleagues with interests or ideas for studies that can be done on Japanese Mormons.

JOSEPHINE M. KASTELER has been directing a national study on hypertension detection and follow-up at the University of Utah Medical School and is interested in getting involved in research of that and other kinds involving Mormons.

THOMAS H. KEMP is interested in different styles of Mormon religiosity, in political

conservatism in the Mormon setting, in Mormon policy on women and the ERA, in depression among Mormons, and in the training of Mormons or others in defensive driving (he has started his own drivers' school).

DOUGLAS B. KOLLER writes from Kansas that he is interested in market research and other sociological topics.

continued next issue