

SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF MORMON LIFE

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 15, No. 1
Spring 1994

Michael E. Nielsen, Editor

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SSSML In Raleigh

Our annual meeting was held October 28-31, 1993, in Raleigh, NC. This year, SSSML co-sponsored with SSSR three paper sessions, the business meeting, and at least 14 additional papers concerned Mormon studies or were delivered by members of SSSML. To help place these numbers in perspective, consider the fact that the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry sponsored one session, and RRA itself sponsored 12 sessions. Clearly, Mormon studies made their presence known in Raleigh! Despite the difficulties encountered with the hotel over accommodations, the meetings were a success. The sessions co-sponsored by SSSML and the names of presenters follow. (Space does not allow inclusion of titles, but they are available in the SSSR/RRA program.)

Reflections on Mormon Studies

(presentations by Armand Mauss; Lawrence Young; Rex Cooper; and Steve Epperson).

Internationalization of Mormonism

(presentations by Cardell Jacobson, Tim Heaton, Dale Lebaron & Trina Hope; John Jarvis; Lynn Payne, Rene Doris & Kris Goodman; Rex Cooper & Jim Smithson).

The Glenn M. Vernon Memorial Lecture

was prepared by David Knowlton. "Debating Religion: Postmodernism and the Study of Mormonism" Due to a family emergency, David was unable to deliver the address. Bonnie Mitchell pinch-hitted admirably. David's presence was missed.

The SSSML Business Session (Minutes in this issue of the newsletter).

In addition to SSSML co-sponsored sessions, many papers other dealt with Mormon topics or were delivered by members of SSSML. Topics ranged from feminism to church growth, and attribution to regional studies. Presenters included Rob Lively; Marie Cornwall; Debra Kaufman; Martha Beck; Larry Iannaccone, Daniel Olson & Rodney Stark; Kay Smith; Perry Cunningham; Lawrence Young; Cardell Jacobson & Jeffrey Chin; Larry Jensen, Margean Cary & Janet Jensen; Laga Van Beek & Marie Cornwall; Daniel Stout; Larry Jensen & Janet Jensen; Kendall White Jr. & Daryl White.

Business Meeting Minutes

Officers of SSSML were nominated. Perry Cunningham was nominated for President at last year's meeting, but was not voted in during the year because no mailings went out from the organization. Larry Young was nominated President-Elect; Lynn Payne was nominated Secretary/Treasurer. The Board of Directors includes Merlin Brinkerhoff, Marie Cornwall, and Kendall White. It was moved and seconded that, if elected, these officers serve terms until November 1995.

Discussion regarding changing the name of SSSML centered on the diversity of our membership, and the desire that our name reflect that diversity. After considering a number of alternatives, Mormon Studies Association and Association for the Study of Mormon Life were selected for a vote of the membership.

Larry Young was thanked for his years of service as newsletter editor. Michael Nielsen was appointed to succeed Larry in a three year term. The newsletter will be published twice yearly (spring and autumn).

The Society's relationship with Sunstone was discussed. Because Sunstone poses scheduling conflicts with other meetings, and because it currently is not feasible for some of our officers to be involved with Sunstone, the Society would focus its efforts on meeting jointly with SSSML.

SSSML was listed accidentally on the SSSR-RRA program cover, which caused some unwarranted concern by one SSSR member. It was noted that two people attended the Raleigh meetings because of this error, and that SSSR leaders wish to continue the relationship with SSSML.

The frequency of the Vernon lecture was discussed. By holding the lecture every other year, rather than yearly, it was thought that the lecture would be seen as more important. Other reasons for less frequency included an improved ability to provide financial support for the speaker, and that the speaker pool may be limited. SSSML members are encouraged to nominate a presenter, who could be announced at the next meeting (Use Ballot C).

Dues for the 1993 year would be waived. We need to increase dues payments, possibly by encouraging the payment of more than one year at a time.

Election of Officers

President-Elect Perry Cunningham began his two year term of office as President. Nominations for other officers and Council members included: Larry Young as President-Elect, Lynn Payne as Secretary-Treasurer, and Merlin Brinkerhoff, Marie Cornwall, and Kendall White as Council members. An election ballot (Ballot A) is enclosed with this newsletter. Please vote for your favorite candidate by either checking the box next to the person's name, or by writing in another name in the space provided. The new officers and council members will serve a two year term of office ending in November 1995.

Change Name of SSSML

Because many of our members are affiliated with disciplines other than sociology, a motion was made and seconded at the business meeting to change the name of our organization. Among our membership are scholars in sociology, anthropology, criminal justice, family studies, history, psychology, religion, social work, women's studies, and others. Therefore, it was proposed at the Business Meeting that the name of our organization be changed to either the Mormon Studies Association (MSA) or the Association for the Study of Mormon Life (ASML). Please use the enclosed Ballot B to mark your preference regarding this proposed name change. Results will be announced in the next issue of the newsletter.

Editor's Comment

As a relatively young investigator of religious behavior, I have benefitted from past editions of the SSSML newsletter. In particular, I have enjoyed reading the contributions that many of you have made to the newsletter. Past editions always have included something--from summaries of data, to commentaries, to the bibliography--that has been useful and informative to me. The

newsletter serves a vital link in keeping our members aware of developments in the field, and I am committed to making it valuable and interesting to you. My primary goals for the newsletter are that it be an effective clearinghouse of information, and that it strengthens the sense of community among our membership.

In order to achieve these goals, however, your contributions are needed! If you have published or read something that might be of interest to your colleagues, please send the citation to me. Research notes, comments on Mormon studies or scientific studies of religion (general or specific), book reviews, and graphic or tabular summaries of data are especially welcome. Send notices of upcoming conferences or meetings that other members might be interested in. The newsletter also may be a useful tool for requesting information from your colleagues or for arranging for collaboration among our members. (In my opinion, there is a great, but untapped, potential for interdisciplinary work in our organization.)

Do you have other ideas for the newsletter? Tell me! We will publish two issues (Spring and Autumn) yearly, but (need I state the obvious?) your input will be accepted anytime. Please send your information, ideas, suggestions, comments, and errata to :

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Announcements

SSSML to Meet in Albuquerque

The 1994 meeting of SSSML, SSSR, and RRA will be November 4-6 in beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico. We plan to hold three to four sessions. The SSSR theme for the conference, "Religion and Social Justice," and the RRA conference

theme, "Religion Approaching the Millennium: What Organizational Forms Will It Take?" suggest many possibilities for SSSML members. And, as always, presentations that diverge from these themes are welcome. To participate on the SSSML program, contact Perry Cunningham, Research Information Division, 18th Floor, 50 E. South Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84150.

Dialogue Special Issue

"The Mormon Church in the 21st Century" will be the subject of a special issue of Dialogue to be edited by Armand Mauss. The issue promises to be a lively discussion of directions that the church may take as it begins the next millennia. What do you believe Mormonism will be like in the next century? Contact Armand if you are interested in submitting work for this exciting issue:

Armand Mauss
Department of Sociology
P.O. Box 2061 C.S.
Washington State Univ.
Pullman, WA 99165-2061

Science and Religion in Modern Western Thought

York University will host this interdisciplinary conference emphasizing the relationship between the philosophy of science and religion, May 18-19. Contact: Bernard Lightman
S932 Ross
Office of the Dean of Arts
4700 Keele Street
North York, Ontario
M3J 1P3
e-mail: lightman@vm2.yorku.ca

Religion in Context

The University of Haifa will hold a conference devoted to the study of religion in all disciplines. A preliminary outline of

topics includes presentations representing history, philosophy, sociology, archeology, Judaic studies, anthropology, psychology, and political science. To be held June 27-30, 1994. Contact: Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi Psychology, University of Haifa fax 972-4-240966 e-mail: RSPS707@HAIFAUVM.BITNET

Recent Publications

Because the newsletter did not appear for some time, we have a backlog of publications to report. Our thanks to Armand Mauss, who provided the following bibliography.

A. Books Published in 1991 and 1992

- Alexander, Thomas G., *Things in Heaven and Earth: The Life and Times of Wilford Woodruff, a Mormon Prophet*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1991.
- Alexander, Thomas G., ed., *Great Basin Kingdom Revisited: Contemporary Perspectives*. Logan: Utah State Univ. Press, 1991.
- Anderson, Dawn Hall, and Marie Cornwall, eds., *Women and the Power Within: To See Life Steadily and See It Whole*. Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1991.
- Beecher, Maureen U., ed., *Sisters in Spirit: Mormon Women in Historical and Cultural Perspective*. Champaign-Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Press, 1992.
- Colson, Dennis C., *Idaho's Constitution: The Tie that Binds*. Moscow, ID: Univ. of Idaho Press, 1991 (has a lot on Mormons and anti-Mormonism in the constitutional process).
- Cresswell, Stephen, *Mormons and Cowboys, Moonshiners and Klansmen: Federal Law Enforcement in the South and West, 1870-1893*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1991.
- Draper, Maurice L., *The Founding Prophet: An Administrative Biography of Joseph Smith, Jr.* Independence, MO: Herald Publishing House, 1991.
- Epperson, Steven, *Mormons and Jews: Early Mormon Theologies of Israel*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1992.
- Foster, Lawrence, *Women, Family, and Utopia: Communal Experiments of the Shakers, the Oneida Community, and the Mormons*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse Univ. Press, 1991.
- Gillespie, L. Kay, *The Unforgiven: Utah's Executed Men*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1991.
- Hanks, Maxine, ed., *Women and Authority: Re-emerging Mormon Feminism*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1992.
- Hardy, B. Cannon, *Solemn Covenant: The Mormon Polygamous Passage*. Champaign-Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Press, 1992.
- Louder, Dean (ed.), *The Heart of French Canada: Ottawa to Quebec City*. Rutgers U. Press, (1992).
- Louder, Dean, & E. Waddell (eds.), *French America: Mobility, Identity and Minority Experience Across the Continent*. LSU Press, 1992.
- McPherson, Robert S., *Sacred Land, Sacred View: Navajo Perceptions of the Four Corners Region*. Salt Lake City, Signature Books, 1992.
- Moorman, Donald R. and Gene A. Sessions, *Camp Floyd and the Mormons: The Utah War*. Salt Lake City: Univ. of Utah Press, 1992.
- Newton, Marjorie, *Southern Cross Saints: The Mormons in Australia*. Laie, III: Institute for Polynesian Studies, 1991.
- Paul, Erich R. *Science, Religion, and Mormon Cosmology*. Champaign-Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Press, 1992.
- Quinn, D. Michael, ed., *The New Mormon History: Revisionist Essays on the Past*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1992.
- Riley, Glenda. *Divorce: An American Tradition*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1991. (Includes Utah and Mormon divorces.)
- Schoenherr, Richard A., & Lawrence A. Young, *Full Pews & Empty Altars: Demographics of the Priest Shortage in United States*

- Catholic Dioceses. Madison, WI: Univ. of Wisconsin Press, 1993.
- Schow, Wayne, Ron Schow, and Marybeth Raynes, eds., *Peculiar People: Mormons and Same-Sex Orientation*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1991.
- Smith, George D., ed., *Faithful History: Essays on Writing Mormon History*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1992.
- Smith, George D., ed., *An Intimate Chronicle: The Journals of William Clayton*. Salt Lake City: Signature Books, 1991.
- Swetnam, Susan H., *Lives of the Saints in Southeast Idaho: An Introduction to Mormon Pioneer Life Story Writing*. Moscow, ID: Univ. of Idaho Press, 1991.
- Turley, Richard E., Jr., *Victims: The LDS Church and the Mark Hoffman Case*. Champaign-Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Press, 1992.
- Forthcoming in 1994 from the University of Illinois Press**
- Cornwall, Marie, Tim Heaton, and Lawrence Young, eds., *Contemporary Mormonism: Social Science Perspectives*
- Mauss, Armand L., *The Angel and the Beehive: The Mormon Struggle with Assimilation*
- B. General Sociology, Social Science, and Other Scholarly Journals**
- Allgood, S.M., and D.R. Crane, "Predicting Marital Therapy Dropouts." *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy* 17:73-79 (January, 1991).
- Arcenaux, Cathann, "Religious Life-Styles and Mental Health: A Follow-up Study - A Comment." *Counseling and Values* 35:225-27 (April 1991).
- Bloom, Harold, "The Religion-making Imagination of Joseph Smith." *Yale Review* 80(1-2):26-43 (April, 1992).
- Boyle, T.D., "Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and Moonies: A Critical Look at Christian Heterodoxy in Japan." *Japan Christian Quarterly* 57:29-35 (Winter, 1991).
- Brinkerhoff, M.B., and Elaine Grandin, "Contemporary Reactions to Mormonism: A Case Study from Rural Alberta." *Canadian Journal of Sociology* 16:165-85 (Spring, 1991).
- Bromley, David G., "The Satanic Cult Scare." *Society* 28:55-56 (Feb./March, 1991).
- Firmage, Edwin B., "Religion and the Law: The Mormon Experience in the Nineteenth Century." *Cardozo Law Review* 12:765-803 (Feb/March, 1991).
- Loy, R. Philip, "Saints or Scoundrels: Images of Mormons in Literature and Film about the American West." *Journal for the American Studies Association of Texas* 21:57-74 (Oct., 1990).
- Markstrom-Adams, Carol, "Attitudes of Dating, Courtship, and Marriage: Perspectives on In-Group vs. Out-Group Relationships by Religious Minority and Majority Adolescents." *Family Relations* 40:91-96. (Jan. 1991).
- Masters, K.S. et al., "Religious Life-Styles and Mental Health: A Follow-up Study." *Counseling and Values* 35:211-24 (April, 1991).
- Otterstrom, S.M., "Implications of Church Membership Growth in Third World Nations." *Insight* 6:13-16 (Winter, 1991).
- Ryan, Russell K., "And Then There Was One: An Analysis and Comparison of Polygamy among Jews and Mormons." *The Jewish Law Journal* 9:205-31 (1991).
- Schoemaker, George H., "Acculturation and Transformation of Salt Lake Temple Symbols in Mormon Tombstone Art." *Markers IX: Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies* 1992:196-215.
- C. Journals in Religious Studies**
- Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion**
- Baer, Hans A., review of Anson Shupe, *The Darker Side of Virtue: Corruption, Scandal, and the Mormon Empire*. 31(2):242-243 (June, 1992).
- Duke, J.T., and B.L. Johnson, "Religious Affiliation and Congressional

- Representation." 31(3):324-329 (September, 1992). (Includes Mormons.)
- Richards, P. Scott and Mark L. Davison, "Religious Bias in Moral Development Research: A Psychometric Investigation." 31(4):467-485 (December, 1992). (Biases in Kohlberg's moral development scheme as applied to Mormons and other conservative religions).
- White, O.K., review of P.L. Barlow, *Mormons and the Bible: The Place of the Latter-day Saints in American Religion*. 31(3):378-80 (September, 1992).

Review of Religious Research

- Johnson, Martin, and Phil Mullins, "Mormonism: Catholic, Protestant, Different?" 34(1):51-62 (September, 1992).
- Peterson, Daniel C., review of Philip L. Barlow, *Mormons and the Bible: The Place of the Latter-day Saints in American Religion*. 34(1):78-79 (September, 1992).

Midstream: A Monthly Jewish Review

- Cain, Seymour, "The Mormon Quest for the Kingdom of God." 37:24-27 (November, 1991).

D. Journals from the Mormon Community Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought Spring, 1992 (25:1)

- Allen, James B., "On Becoming a Universal Church: Some Historical Perspectives."
- Mackelprang, Romel W., "'And They shall be One Flesh': Sexuality and Contemporary Mormonism."
- Silva, Erin R., "Ecclesiastical Implications of Grace."
- Homer, Michael W., "The Budding of Mormon History in Italy" (review in English of two books in Italian, one on the Mormons and the Moonies, by Massimo Introvigne, and one on the Mormons by Michele Straniero). Summer, 1992 (25:2):
- Chandler, Rebecca Worthen, "The Wake of a Media Crisis: Guilt by Association or Innocence by Proclamation?" (on the Jeff

- Lundgren murders in Kirtland Ohio).
- Alexander, Thomas G., "Wilford Woodruff and the Mormon Reformation of 1855-57."
- Knowlton, David, "Thoughts on Mormonism in Latin America."
- Lindquist, Kathryn, "Sexual Hegemony and Mormon Women: Seeing Ourselves in the Bambara Mirror."
- Topping, Gary, "Reappraisal of a Classic" (review of Thomas G. Alexander, ed., *Great Basin Kingdom Revisited*).
- Homer, Michael W., "The Survival of New Religious Movements" (review of Timothy Miller, ed., *When Prophets Die: The Post Charismatic Fate of New Religious Movements*).

Fall, 1992 (25:3)

- Heaton, Tim B., "Demographics of the Contemporary Mormon Family."
- Tarjan, John, "Heavenly Father or Chairman of the Board?: How Organizational Metaphors Can Define and Confine Religious Experience."
- Cain, Seymour, "Judaism and Mormonism: Paradigm and Supersession."
- Sainsbury, Steven J., "Aids: The Twentieth-Century Leprosy."
- Willes, Fayone B., "A Closer Focus: Challenges in Doing Local History."
- Taber, Susan B., "Being Mormon: The Elkton Branch, 1976-81."
- Jorgenson, Danny, "Assessing Conflict" (review of Roger D. Launius and W.B. Spillman, eds., *Let Contention Cease: The Dynamics of Dissent in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*).
- Shaffer, Donald R., "Mormon-Gentile Conflicts in Illinois Reconsidered" (review of Annette P. Hampshire, *Mormonism in Conflict: The Nauvoo Years*, a 1985 book).
- Bringhurst, Newell G., "A Modern Prophet and His Times" (review of Thomas G. Alexander, *Things in Heaven and Earth: The Life and Times of Wilford Woodruff, a Mormon Prophet*).
- Romig, Ronald E., "The Administrative Role of the

Presidency" (review of Maurice L. Draper, *The Founding Prophet: An Administrative Biography of Joseph Smith, Jr.*).

Lindsey, Donald B., "Utah's Darkest Side" (review of L. Kay Gillespie, *The Unforgiven: Utah's Executed Men*).

Winter, 1992 (25:4)

Tobler, Douglas F., "Before the Wall Fell: Mormons in the German Democratic Republic, 1945-89."

Koltko, Mark E., "Latter-day Myths about Counseling and Psychotherapy."

Thatcher, Linda, "Women Alone: The Economic and Emotional Plight of Early LDS Women."

Embry, Jessie L., (two successive articles): "Ethnic Groups and the LDS Church" and "Speaking for Themselves: LDS Ethnic Groups Oral History Project."

Hawkins, Chester Lee, "Selective Bibliography on African-Americans and Mormons, 1830-1990."

Riley, Glenda, "Mormon Women and Families" (review of Lawrence Foster's *Women, Family and Utopia: Communal Experiments of the Shakers, the Oneida Community, and the Mormons*).

Launius, Roger D., "Is There a New Mormon History?" (review of D. Michael Quinn, ed., *The New Mormon History: Revisionist Essays on the Past*).

Western, Carla S., "Finding our Voices" (review of April Daniels and Carol Scott, *Paperdolls: Healing from Sexual Abuse in Mormon Neighborhoods*).

Lewis, David R., "Place and Identity in the Southwest" (review of Robert S. McPherson, *Sacred Land, Sacred View: Navajo Perceptions of the Four Corners Region*).

Gutjahr, Paul, "Measuring the Measuring Stick" (review of Philip L. Barlow, *Mormons and the Bible: The Place of the Latter-day Saints in American Religion*).

Poll, Richard D., "Seeking the Past: Noble Quest

or Fool's Errand" (review of George D. Smith, ed., *Faithful History: Essays on Writing Mormon History*).

Sunstone

October, 1991 (15:4), Issue #84

Knowlton, David, "Of Things in the Heavens, on the Earth, and in the Church."

Voros, Fred, "Freedom of Speech in the Household of Faith."

Depillis, Mario S., "The Persistence of Mormon Community into the 1990s."

November, 1991 (15:5), Issue #85

Ulrich, Wendy L., "Not for Adam's Transgression: Paths to Intergenerational Peace."

Thorp, Malcolm R., "Some Reflections on the New Mormon History and the Possibilities of a 'New' Traditional History."

Mackelprang, Romel W., "Neither Hero nor Service Project: Developing Healthy Attitudes toward People with Disabilities."

Firmage, Edwin, Jr., "Jewish Perspectives on Abortion."

Mauss, Armand, "The Darker Side of Scholarship" (review of Anson D. Shupe, *The Darker Side of Virtue: Corruption, Scandal, and the Mormon Empire*, with subsequent exchange between author and reviewer in issue #87 [February, 1992]:5-7).

Young, Stephen, "Canadian Saints" (review of B.Y. Card, et al., *The Mormon Presence in Canada*).

December, 1991 (15:6), Issue #86

Elliott, Dorice Williams, "Women, the Mormon Family, and Class Mobility: Nineteenth-Century Victorian ideology in a Twentieth-Century Church."

Bergera, Gary James, "Toward 'Psychologically Informed' Mormon History and Biography."

Smith, George D., "William Clayton: Joseph Smith's 'Private Clerk' and Eyewitness to Mormon Polygamy in Nauvoo."

February, 1992 (16:1), Issue #87

Marquardt, H. Michael, "An Appraisal of

Manchester as Location for the Organization of the Church."

Quinn, D. Michael, "150 Years of Truth and Consequences about Mormon History."

August, 1992 (16:2), Issue #88

Knowlton, David, "On Mormon Masculinity."

Ritchie, J. Bonner, "Let Contention Cease: The Limits of Dissent in the Church."

Capener, Cole R., "Justice."

Lambert, Glen, review of Paperdolls: Healing from Sexual Abuse in Mormon Neighborhoods, by April Daniels and Carol Scott.

Clark, Stephen C., "And They All Prayed On" (review of J. Gordon Melton, The Churches Speak on AIDS).

Brigham Young University Studies

Fall, 1991 (31:4)

Contains a review of the new Encyclopedia of Mormonism by Davis Bitton, and a complete Index for BYU Studies from the beginning through 1991 (Volumes 1 through 31). It is an unusually useful index. since it is arranged not only by author and title, but also by topical category.

Winter and Spring, 1992 (32:1 and 2)

Double issue containing a large and varied collection of historical essays on the Nauvoo period. They are not social science pieces, except in the most marginal sense, although one of them, by Kenneth Godfrey, covers "Crime and Punishment in Mormon Nauvoo, 1839-1846."

All are very interesting as history, however. Among the book reviews is Thomas Alexander's review of Richard S. Van Wagoner's Mormon Polygamy: A History (second edition, 1989, paperback).

Summer, 1992 (32:3)

Contains a series of articles on library collections of Mormon Americana at Yale University, Huntington Library (and elsewhere), plus the very valuable annual "Mormon Bibliography" (for 1991).

The Journal of Mormon History

Spring, 1992 (18:1)

Howard, Richard P., "The Mormon-RLDS Boundary, 1852-1991: Walls to Windows."

Bergera, Gary James, "Seniority in the Twelve: The 1875 Realignment of Orson Pratt."

Tobler, Douglas F., "The Jews, the Mormons, and the Holocaust."

Embry, Jessie L., "Ultimate Taboos: Incest and Mormon Polygamy."

Leonard, Glen M., "The Mormon Boundary Question in the 1849-50 Statehood Debates."

Ridge, Martin, "Mormon 'Deliverance' and the Closing of the Frontier."

Scott, Patricia L., James E. Crooks, and Sharon G. Pugsley, "'A Kinship of Interest': The Mormon History Association's Membership."

Fall, 1992 (18:2)

Arrington, Leonard J., "The Founding of the LDS Church Historical Department, 1972."

Homer, Michael W., "Masonry and Mormonism in Utah, 1847-1984."

Mehr, Kahlile, "Enduring Believers: Czechoslovakia and the LDS Church, 1884-1990."

Holzapfel, Richard N., "Stereographs and Stereotypes: A 1904 View of Mormonism."

Underwood, Grant, review of Thomas G. Alexander, Things in Heaven and Earth: The Life and Times of Wilford Woodruff, a Mormon Prophet.

Allen, James B., review of Paul M. Edwards, Our Legacy of Faith: A Brief History of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Poll, Richard D., review of the Encyclopedia of Mormonism: The History, Scripture, Doctrine, and Procedure of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Bishop, M. Guy, review of Thomas G. Alexander, ed., Great Basin Kingdom Revisited.

Godfrey, Kenneth W., review of George D. Smith, ed., The Journals of William Clayton.

- Ritchie, J. Bonner, review of Roger D. Launius and W.B. Spillman, eds., *Let Contention Cease: The Dynamics of Dissent in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*.
- Shirts, Kathryn H., review of Philip L. Barlow, *Mormons and the Bible: The Place of the Latter-day Saints in American Religion*.

The John Whitmer Historical Association Journal

Volume 12 (1992)

- Bringhurst, Newell G., "The 'Renegade' and the 'Reorganites': Fawn M. Brodie and her Varied Encounters with the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints."
- Madison, Robert B., "'Heirs According to the Promise' : Observations on Ethnicity, Race, and Identity in the Two Factions of Nineteenth-Century Mormonism."
- Embry, Jessie L., "'Separate but Equal?': American Ethnic Groups in the RLDS and LDS Churches - A Comparison."
- Book Reviews in this issue:
- Leonard, Glen M., review of Richard P. Howard, *The Church through the Years: Volume 1 - RLDS Beginnings to 1860*.
- Szilagyi, Flora, review of Roger D. Launius and W.B. Spillman, eds., *Let Contention Cease: The Dynamics of Dissent in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*.
- Lancaster, Richard B., review of Maurice L. Draper, *The Founding Prophet: An Administrative Biography of Joseph Smith, Jr.*
- Muir, Harold T., review of George D. Smith, eds., *An Intimate Chronicle: The Journals of William Clayton*.
- Elkins, Gina A., review of Cynthia S. Sasse and Peggy M. Widder, *The Kirtland Massacre*.
- Hansen, Eric, review of Pete Earley, *Prophet of Death: The Mormon Blood-Atonement Killings (the Lundgren murders in Kirtland)*.

- Hardy, B. Cannon, review of Thomas G. Alexander, *Things in Heaven and Earth: The Life and Times of Wilford Woodruff a Mormon Prophet*.
- LeSueur, Stephen C., review of Thomas G. Alexander, ed., *Great Basin Kingdom Revisited: Contemporary Perspectives*.
- Conrad, Larry W., review of Philip L. Barlow, *Mormons and the Bible: The Place of the Latter-day Saints in American Religion*.

In addition to the above bibliography are a few publications that either were written by members of SSSML, or included Mormons as subjects (with apologies from the editor if any have appeared in previous editions of the newsletter):

- Belks, R.W. (1992). Moving possessions: An analysis based on personal documents from the 1847-1869 Mormon migration. *Journal of Consumer Research*, 19, 338-361.
- Canfield, K.R., et al., (1990). Factorial validity of brief satisfaction scales in surveys of Mormon, Roman Catholic, and Protestant fathers. *Psychological Reports*, 67(3, pt. 2), 1319-1322.
- Fultz, J., & M.E. Nielsen, (1993). Anticipated vicarious affect and willingness to be exposed to another's suffering. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, 14, 273-283.
- Hawks, R.D., & S.H. Bahr, (1992). Religion and drug use. *Journal of Drug Education*, 22(1), 1-8.
- Mickel, H.A. (1991). A critique of Kellehear's transcendent society. *Journal of Near Death Studies*, 10(2), 123-130.
- Ozanne, J.L. (1992). Material concerns while coming of age in the Mormon faith: Spiritual work in a secular world. In J. Sherry & B. Sternthal (Eds.) *Advances in consumer research* (pp. 397-399). Provo UT: Association for Consumer Studies.
- Wright, N.D., & V. Larsen, (1992). Material values in the Book of Mormon. In F. Rudmin & M. Richins (Eds.) *Meaning, measure and morality of materialism* (pp. 51-57). Provo, UT: Association for Consumer Studies.

A User's Guide to Reference Letters

[Editor's note: Members of SSSML frequently are called upon to write letters of reference for their students. The following letter is included here with the hope that SSSML members may find some help, solace, or at least a smile, as they contemplate their next letter of reference. It appeared in the Spring 1991 issue of Dialogue, the newsletter of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, and is reprinted with permission of the author, Todd Heatherton, and Dialogue (SPSP).]

by Todd Heatherton

Dear Committee Members (Suckers):

It is my pleasure (I haven't had so much fun since I did my taxes) to write this letter for John Deaux, and I can honestly say (just like I was on my taxes) that he is a superb candidate for the social psychology position in your illustrious department (is there really a psych dept in Armpit, Arizona?). I have known John well (for nine painful years) as a member of his dissertation committee (I have checked with lawyers and I can't be held liable, in any way, for the results of that thesis). John's progress is so exceptional that we joke we should have given him tenure rather than a Ph.D.! (Of course, this says more about my institute than about John... we've been known to tenure sheep.)

I have also had the privilege of observing John as a student in research seminars (sort of like observing fish at an aquarium). I can say without a doubt that he is the best student we

have had in the 30 years that I have been teaching (his volleyball skills have never been rivalled). John is even better than the student I described last year as the best student I had ever had (who we hope will be "released" next year and back on the job market) and he is clearly superior to the three other students that I am writing letters for this year. By the way, an unfortunate computer glitch has caused this same sentence to appear in all three letters. (If you believe this I have some nice coastal property in Iraq for sale....)

I have also known John in his capacity as my teaching assistant in Introductory Psychology and although there are 30 other teaching assistants in the course, he has stood out among them (mainly because he is so tall--see the earlier comments regarding volleyball abilities).

John is highly creative (I've never seen such an ability to create data) and also very productive (see earlier comment). He works hard at polishing written material (or, there is so much liquid paper that his written material looks polished) and, as you can plainly see, he has a very impressive CV (counting citations for unpublished poetry and "Life's Like That" stories from Reader's Digest).

Finally, it is a genuine pleasure to have John in our department (it does our other students good to compare themselves with him). He is outgoing (as soon as we can arrange it), cheerful (irritatingly so), and happy-go-lucky (one might say John is an idiot).

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call (I'll say anything to get this guy out of here).

Sincerely,

[Insert Alias Here]