

The Witness

Published Quarterly
by The Book of
Mormon Foundation
Number 110 • Spring 2004

From the President

The validity of The Book of Mormon has once again come under challenge. Most recently, criticisms have come to our attention based on the now-popular field of DNA evidence. The focus of this attempt is to dispute the existence of Lehi's lineage on this continent. These criticisms have been circulating in many forms, such as articles and videos. One of the most common resources being used is a video entitled "DNA vs. The Book of Mormon." It also seems the critical author quoted the most often in the national debate of this challenge is Thomas Murphy.

Consequently, we feel this issue of The Witness should address, as much as space will allow, a response to this challenge. We are providing the saints with articles and classes based on scriptural content and scientific research in the DNA field. You will also find in this issue a few of the many web sites available for your own research. Please note that we have scheduled a class on April 3 at The Book of Mormon Foundation Learning Center on this subject.

The instructor will be Gaylord Shaw, a biology professor at Graceland University.

Ultimately, our position at The Book of Mormon Foundation has not changed. We disagree with the basic premise of these critics and challenge many of their conclusions. We affirm that the true testimony of The Book of Mormon is found through the revelation of the Holy Spirit. This is the inspired claim it makes for every reader who searches with real intent and a sincere heart. We believe it is important to remember that a testimony based only on academics can also be changed by academics. A conversion of the heart is ultimately found in the revelation of heaven to each of us. Such a testimony will never submit to any worldly challenge of our faith. Our hope is that you have such a testimony or that you are willing to diligently seek it. Our prayer is that the saints will remain steadfast and immovable as we witness the Lord make bare His holy arm in the eyes of the nations. Such is the time in which we live. †

Inside:

DNA and the Book of Mormon: A Response to Critics
page 3

What Nephite DNA?
page 4

Book of Mormon Day for Kids
page 5

Book of Mormon Retreat 2004
page 7

Book of Mormon Name Scramble
page 7

BMF Library Gets a New Look
page 8

New Board Members
page 8

DNA and The Book of Mormon

by Cooper Johnson

Have you ever tried to envision the big picture with a few pieces of a thousand-piece puzzle? Come on, you puzzle buffs; you know what I'm talking about. Say I were to give you five random pieces of a thousand-piece puzzle. Would you have any chance of identifying the picture that would result from all one thousand pieces put together, from just having those five pieces? No cheating; no peeking at the puzzle box to identify the picture.

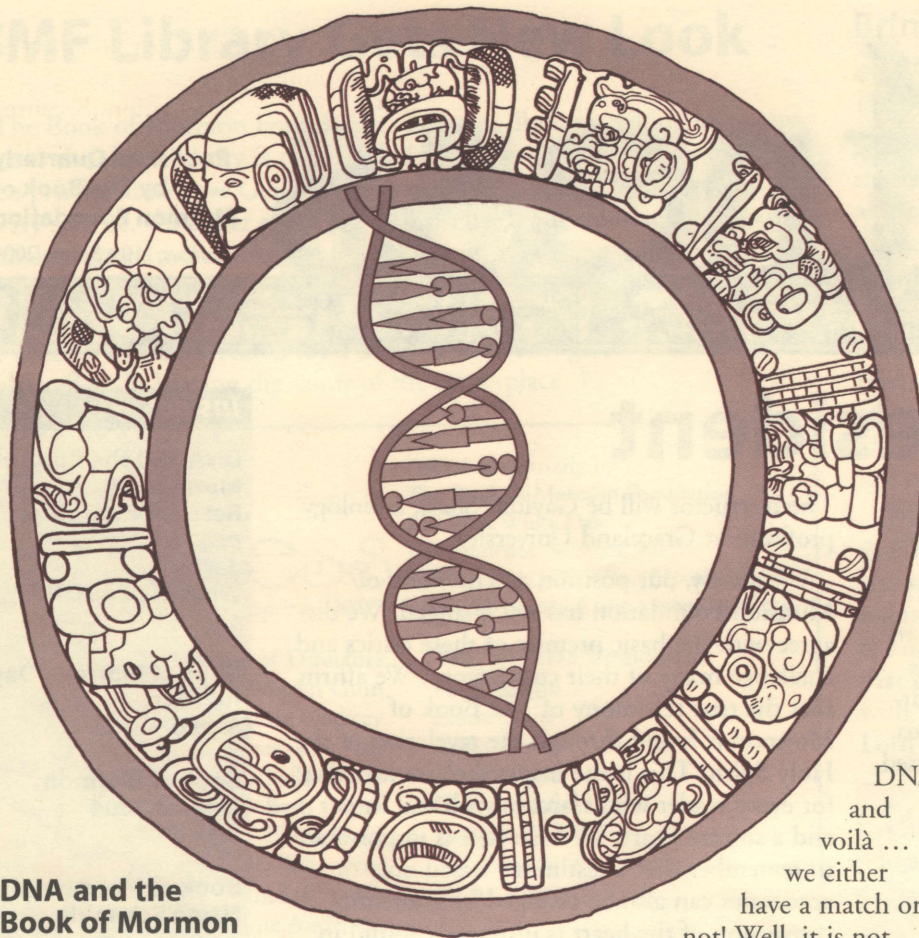
It would be an impossible task and, of the thousands of people reading this

article, I doubt I could find anyone who has even attempted it. Why would anyone take five pieces and use that to guess the "big picture?" Silly, isn't it?

Attempting to determine the validity of The Book of Mormon with current mitochondrial DNA (MDNA) studies of Native American populations is equally as difficult, according to Scott Woodward, professor of microbiology at Brigham Young University, as he addressed the attendees at the FAIR (Foundation for Apologetic Information and Research) Conference in 2001.

The focus of the 2001 FAIR Conference was The Book of Mormon and, with the rise of genetic studies of Native American MDNA that have been reported in various press and media outlets, Dr. Woodward's presentation on the subject of DNA and The Book of Mormon was timely and extremely enlightening for those in attendance. My purpose in this article is to outline the findings and conclusions of Dr. Woodward as per his conference presentation. I hope this will

continued on page 2



DNA and the Book of Mormon

Continued from page 1

help us understand the current state of DNA evidence as it relates to Native Americans and The Book of Mormon, ultimately providing all of us a sound basis with which to judge the genetic data being produced in this area.

DNA: A Simple Formula?

There are those who would advocate a simple formula for determining the validity of The Book of Mormon: Analyze Hebraic and Native American

DNA and voilà ... we either have a match or not! Well, it is not that simple, especially considering only the genetic data that is available today. Let's take a closer look.

There are, of course, different types of genetic analysis. Mitochondrial DNA analysis is the study of a small molecule inside our cells which, according to Dr. Woodward, makes up 1/200,000th of our total genetic make-up. So, we are talking about a tremendously small contribution from MDNA.

Scott R. Woodward is currently a professor of microbiology and faculty member of the Molecular Biology Program at Brigham Young University. He is also head of the Molecular Genealogy Research Group at BYU. While completing his postdoctoral work in molecular genetics at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the University of Utah, he discovered a genetic marker used for the identification of carriers and the eventual discovery of the gene for cystic fibrosis. He was also involved with the identification of other gene markers for colon cancer and neurofibromatosis.

Woodward joined the faculty at BYU in 1989 and has been involved with several excavation teams in Seila, Egypt. While in Egypt, he directed the genetic and molecular analysis of Egyptian mummies, both from a commoners' cemetery and from Egyptian royal tombs. Dr. Woodward has been the scholar in residence at the BYU Center for Near Eastern Studies in Jerusalem and a visiting professor at Hebrew University. His work has been featured both nationally and internationally on numerous programs including Good Morning America and both the Discovery and Learning Channels.

So, why is it studied so extensively? Why are we seeing so many MDNA studies surfacing regarding the origins of specific populations of people? Dr. Woodward attributes this to how easy MDNA is to study. The genetic community knows quite a bit about this type of DNA, so re-creating the wheel isn't necessary for those looking to use MDNA for these purposes.

MDNA has a specific characteristic about it that sets it apart from other genetic analyses. It has a specific inheritance: maternal. It can only be passed from a mother to children. Males can receive the MDNA, but not pass it on.

Another unique characteristic about MDNA is that, as opposed to Y Chromosomal DNA and Autosomal DNA, it is non-recombining, which is to say, it doesn't get mixed up as it is passed from generation to generation. Additionally, MDNA's linkage disequilibrium means all markers (parts) are inherited intact through a population's history.

Y Chromosomal DNA, which is the most well-known DNA type to all of us who attended biology classes in junior high and high school, is inherited in males from males. According to Dr. Woodward, this type of DNA doesn't accomplish much other than determine one's maleness (all you guys can stop grunting now).

The bulk of our genetic information, as it relates to linking us to specific populations, is Autosomal DNA. This DNA contains tens of thousands of independent loci (pieces of genetic information), whereas MDNA contains only a handful of loci, according to Dr. Woodward.

Problems Identifying Past Populations

Why go through all this genetic mumbo jumbo? Well, in order to understand what the genetic findings are all about, we must identify the actual type of DNA that is being used in the studies. Only in this way can one ascertain the significance of a study's findings. With this in mind, let's consider some of Dr. Woodward's expressed limitations or concerns when

using MDNA to identify the origins of Native Americans or any population of people, for that matter.

- Since MDNA is maternally inherited, one obvious limitation is in an instance when a mother bears no daughters. Her MDNA effectively comes to a screeching halt. This will complicate issues. Later generations will not have a trace of the former generation's MDNA in this case. Autosomal DNA is inherited from both a mother and father (50/50), which makes it more reliable to track, as it recombines.

- If we limit ourselves to using MDNA or Y Chromosomal DNA to identify a population's genetic origins, we are omitting the bulk of the ancestral information. It is essential to keep this in mind when observing the DNA studies being released today. The picture we are seeing is only a few pieces of that thousand-piece puzzle. It is an extremely limited view. This is not to say we are unable to learn anything from MDNA. Indeed, Dr. Woodward makes it clear that valuable things can be learned, but we must understand what we are looking at a very limited picture.

- In addition to certain MDNA becoming extinct due to the lack of daughters, we must also consider new MDNA showing up due to new groups being introduced to a given population. This can also significantly skew any results.

With this in mind, let's imagine we have ten generations of a family tree in front of us, beginning from the top down to the bottom, over the ten generations. If we are only considering MDNA, as we look at any individual in the 10th generation at the bottom of the chart (which, let's say, represents the current generation), because of the above limitations, we, by no means, have an accurate understanding of the original genetics of this population.

Some MDNA, which existed in, let's say, the first generation, may not be present (and likely won't) in the current generation. And, on the other side of the coin, there will be MDNA information in the current generation

that didn't exist in the first or second generation, due to new populations integrating through marriage to other families.

Now, let's say we not only look at the current generation (the 10th generation), but let us also include its parental generation (the 9th generation). Do we now have an adequate survey, using all MDNA in these two generations, of the ancient population?

No, we do not, according to Dr. Woodward. Once again, we are observing a very limited amount of the genetic make-up of this population, because of extinct MDNA throughout its past, in addition to new MDNA inserting itself from other populations.

Finding Lehi's DNA

We know, and the evidence is over-

DNA

and The Book of Mormon: Answers to the Critics

***A digital presentation by Gaylord E. Shaw, Ph.D.,
Professor, Biological Sciences, Graceland University***

When: Saturday, April 3, 2004

Where: The Book of Mormon Foundation
210 West White Oak, Independence, MO 64050

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
with a short break every hour

DNA vs. The Book of Mormon is a video that has gained national attention recently for its criticisms of The Book of Mormon based on DNA evidence. The information presented will help you prepare a response to these criticisms. Plan to attend!

For more information, contact Dennis Moe at 816-461-3722 or bmfoundation@aol.com.

whelming, that when Lehi arrived in the Americas, there were populations already here. Lehi and his group were certainly not the first to arrive here. What effect would the integration of these two populations have on the passing of Lehi's, or should we say Sariah's, genetic makeup, specifically on the mitochondrial DNA structure? Dr. Woodward informs us that although this depends on the size of the populations, among other factors, this would certainly have a great effect, for we know that Lehi's group was very small.

The population that existed in the Americas prior to Lehi's arrival certainly would have been much, much larger and dominated the genetic structure of later generations (i.e., current generations). This proves to be extremely important when looking at today's Native American genetic information in an effort to determine the origins of this population.

In fact, Dr. Woodward concludes, with the above in mind, that we should not expect to find any MDNA from Lehi's family in today's generation. The introduction of the new MDNA from the larger population, preexistent in the Americas, would prevent such a trace.

Dr. Woodward also addressed the difficulty in recovering ancient DNA for these purposes. It can be done, but it is very difficult at this time. This means the large majority (Dr. Woodward estimates 99.5%) of all MDNA used for these types of studies is derived from current generations. This means our picture is even more limited.

One last statistic will help us understand the status of Native American genetic studies today and, once again, demonstrate our limited view of this population's genetic structure. Today, the number of people used in all the Native American genetic studies is less than 5,000, coming from 75 different populations. We know of 500 populations that exist today in Native American culture, according to Dr. Woodward.

Conclusions

While MDNA can help us understand ancient populations, to test the validity of The Book of Mormon utilizing MDNA, as some advocate, is an unsound and unacceptable hypothesis. This hypothesis begs the question: What did Lehi's genetic make-up look like? This question cannot be answered today, nor is it likely to be answered in the near future.

We are indebted to Dr. Woodward for his tremendous insight that was shared with all

those in attendance at the 2001 FAIR conference. We now have a realistic view of the state of Native American genetic studies and, more specifically, mitochondrial DNA data. And most importantly, we now understand the tremendously limited and inadequate perspective that today's MDNA information provides, as it relates to determining the origins of the current Native American population.

Today's MDNA information gives us absolutely nothing with which to base our conclusions as to the validity of The Book of Mormon. Perhaps someday we may gain a more complete view, but that day has certainly not arrived. We now have a few pieces of this puzzle. These pieces tell us that there is indeed a bigger picture. But as to what that picture is, we have a long way and hundreds of puzzle pieces to go. †

Used by permission.

What Nephite DNA?

By Jeff Lindsay

I have written a lengthy article on the relationship of modern DNA studies to The Book of Mormon, available at www.jefflindsay.com/LDSFAQ/DNA.shtml. I argue that the critics who are attacking The Book of Mormon rely on outdated and untenable assumptions about what The Book of Mormon actually says to create a straw man argument. One point I make is that since The Book of Mormon allows for and implies the presence of many others in the land when Lehi's small boatload of people landed in the Americas, we need not expect that genes from Lehi and Sariah should dominate the genetic makeup of Native Americans. But even if the peoples mentioned in The Book of Mormon were the sole ancestors of the Native Americans, just exactly what DNA haplotypes (sets of genes that are closely linked and tend to be inherited together) should we expect to find? The Book of Mormon does not indicate what the genetic makeup of the settlers was, and does not say that all or even most of the settlers had Jewish ancestry. A useful post on this topic was offered by Woody Brison, which is quoted in part below:

†††

To test The Book of Mormon's claim that Israelite colonists arrived in America anciently, flourished as nations, and their descendants survived in the people without a name, generally called the Indians or Native Americans, it is proposed that we could just check the DNA of some of the local tribes that still exist in out-of-the-way places, and compare them to samples of DNA from modern Jews, and see if The Book's true or not. Simple, eh? Yes, the essence of an experiment designed by a grade school child. But as with many things in life, the real situation is just a bit more complex.

Let's consider exactly what The Book of Mormon says in terms of DNA contributors, male and female. I mention this because, as unbelievable as it is, some "scientific" discussions flatly ignore this little datum.

Following is a little worksheet listing the genetic contributors of the Lamanites. I will note the racial origin of all those we can identify [in square brackets], the rest I will indicate with three question marks [???

The Jared party — Book of Ether

[???] Jared

[???] The Brother of Jared

[???] Other individuals of the Jared party, about 22 (Ether 6:16 LDS, Ether 3:18 RLDS)

All we know about the Jaredites comes to us from the record left by the Nephites, their successors.

Some will object that according to the Book of Ether, all the Jaredites were killed but two (Ether 15 LDS, Ether 6:72-109 RLDS), but this is the understanding of the author of the Book of Ether, who could not have known everything that happened on the entire continent.

(Note: There is no reason why many others could not have fled, and we later find many Jaredite names still cropping up in later Book of Mormon times, showing that Jaredite influence survived — Jeff Lindsay)

The Nephite records say specifically that between the time of Nephi and the time of Mosiah, individuals entered the Nephite community from outside, such as Sherem (Jacob 7 LDS, Jacob 5 RLDS) and Korihor (Alma 30 LDS, Alma 16 RLDS).

Where they came from we are not told, but their names are Jaredite names (Ether 7:3 LDS, Ether 3:39-40 RLDS and Ether 13:17 LDS, Ether 6:18 RLDS) long before any finding of plates from the Jaredites, a possible source of Jaredite names among the Nephites.

The Book of Mormon has a long stretch where it's just a sketch — the early Nephite period, with all those little books detailing little but the handoff of the plates, but there are Jaredite names there, such as Jarom, Amaron, Chemish, Zeniff.

It was later, during Mosiah's and Benjamin's and Mosiah's reigns that the Nephites found the plates of the Jaredites, and their surviving king had been found by the people of Zarahemla, and Zarahemla was a descendant of Mulek. The Lamanites, whose doings are not in the Nephite records but who arrived before Mulek, were therefore contemporary with the Jaredites and may have mixed with them. If there were survivors of the Jaredite holocaust, they almost certainly mixed with the Lamanites, and the record of the last battles of the Jaredites shows that they were trampling cities and people everywhere they went — others of their nation who had NOT been gathered for the war. The Jaredites inhabited mostly the north country, but they did get into the south part and even built a city there.

Book of Mormon Day for Kids 2004

Sponsored by The Book of Mormon Foundation

Theme: Live for the Kingdom.

When: Saturday, Aug. 21, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Where: South Chrysler Restoration Branch.

Who: Kids first through sixth grade.

Cost: \$5 per child or \$10 per family.

Lunch will be provided.

Please preregister by Aug. 2

Registrations will be accepted the day of the event.

**Contact Dennis Moe
at The Book of Mormon Foundation
816-461-3722 or bmfoundation@aol.com**

Note that modern archaeology finds that there were in North America two distinct cultures: one preceding the other, being replaced a couple of centuries before the time of Christ, exactly as The Book of Mormon says. The earlier culture is today called the Clovis people; the later, the Mississippian culture (continuous with natives present at the time of Columbus.)

The Lehi party — book of First Nephi

[[?]] Lehi (some of his fathers were of the tribe of Manassah, but we don't know the genetic composition of the Tribe of Manassah in BC 600. The Israelites accepted strangers, even had laws to adopt them; for example Ezekiel 47:21-23. What were the characteristics of Lehi's genes?

[[?]] Sariah

[[?]] Ishmael

[[?]] Wife of Ishmael

[[?]] Wife of oldest son of Ishmael

[[?]] Wife of second son of Ishmael

[[?]] Zoram

[[?]] Other individuals picked up by the Lehi party on the way through Arabia and past Asia (not mentioned, but possible)

For more information about DNA and The Book of Mormon:

On the Web:

www.jefflindsay.com

www.fairlds.org

www.farms.byu.edu

At your local public library:

Journal of Book of Mormon Studies

published by Foundation for Ancient Research and
Mormon Studies at Brigham Young University

Volume 9/ #2/ 2000

Volume 12/ #1/ 2003

least an additional equal number, not mentioned or named, we have only ONE MALE that we can identify as being definitely Jewish. It seems likely that some of the others were Jewish, but even for that one, we don't know his ancestry with any precision. It could easily have included non-Israelite nationalities.

The majority of this known list was definitely NOT Jewish; the Jaredites were from somewhere in Asia.

And, it should be mentioned, Jerusalem was a major trade center; it always had lots of nationalities rubbing shoulders.

So, if we want to hear the sound of two hands clapping, not just one, to compare modern Native American DNA with modern Jewish DNA, we have to consider what we're comparing with what. Should modern Lamanite DNA look Jewish?

Maybe a more reasonable question would be, why would it?

Some will say that the whole Book of Mormon is about the Nephites, who are Israelites lost from their parent nation! But Israel is a cultural, religious body, not usually a monogenetic body. Consider the original 12 tribes of Israel even: fathered by 12 brothers — the sons of mothers from three different families. But the 12 men's wives? Gathered from all over, including Egypt.

The Jews were one specific tribe among the 12 or 13 in Israel (not the Lehigh colony's tribe); after the Lehighites departed, the Jews were marched off to Babylon for a couple of generations, returned, mixed a bit with other nations which had been imported by Nebuchadnezzar, lived in the land of Israel (again a trading hub) until the first century AD; were exiled by the Romans, scattered all over the face of the earth, and so lived for 1900 years.

Comparing these two, a few samples anyway, no clear match found yet. No real surprise here, but it certainly doesn't BEGIN to disprove what The Book of Mormon really says.

Woody Brison

†††

One point to remember is that the long-term survival of founding haplotypes in small groups surrounded by other haplotypes requires specific types of marital behavior. If members of a population tend to marry within the group, mtDNA and Y-chromosomes from the group may be preserved. If the men regularly marry outsiders, mtDNA may be lost. If women in the group marry men from outside groups, Y-chromosomes can be lost. The apparent persistence of Jewish DNA markers in some Jewish groups is a reflection of historical marriage patterns, but these patterns do not necessarily hold for all ancient peoples with Hebrew roots. The alleged lack of "Jewish DNA" in the Americas cannot rule out the possibility that Hebrew peoples came to one part of the Americas anciently. †

Used by permission.

The Mulek party

— the people of Zarahemla in the Book of Omni

[Jewish] Mulek, son(?) of Mattaniah a.k.a. Zedekiah (installed) king of Judah. We don't know the genetic composition of the House of David in BC 600; Solomon and successors had many political marriages from other nations since about BC 1000. It seems entirely likely that the Kings of Judah had more cosmopolitan genes than the rest of the nation.

(We might note that all other known sons of Zedekiah were executed by Nebuchadnezzar, so that particular genetic line was terminated in the Old World, but it's almost irrelevant with so many tributaries to this stream. However, it illustrates the kinds of sudden turns genetics can take.)

[??] Other unnamed individuals of the Mulek party (Mosiah 25:2 LDS, Mosiah 11:78 RLDS)

[??] Other individuals picked up by the Mulek party on the way (possible, not mentioned) (route unknown)

[??] Other individuals landed on the shores. The last century has seen much interest in the work of Thor Heyerdahl, et al. showing the possibility of oceanic crossing by ancient people. Crossings like that would likely leave no historical record ... only genetic mixing. The Lamanites controlled most of the coastline and should have integrated any ship's crews that blew in; but there would be no record of any of this, because the Lamanites kept no records

The Book of Mormon specifically says that it chronicles less than 1% of all that happened among just the Nephites, and it knows barely anything at all about the doings of the Lamanites over a course of the same ten centuries, and it knows NOTHING about what happened from 400 AD to the present, while it was cached in the earth (other than Nephi seeing our day, etc.)

So, note the prevalence of question marks. Out of 32 known, listed individual DNA contributors, and probably at

Book of Mormon Retreat 2004

What the Body of Christ Can Accomplish

by David Gilmore

But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

— III Nephi 6:11 RLDS, III Nephi 13:33 LDS

Since starting my job in November, my life has been busy with everyday activities that seldom offer any excitement, much less any spiritual nourishment. Sometimes it takes an occasion in which Jesus Christ becomes the focal point of my daily environment for me to recognize what I have been missing. That is exactly the spark that the 2004 Book of Mormon Retreat, held at Odessa Hills Campgrounds, provided for me. I had been looking forward to this retreat since last year after hearing the stories and testimonies from my friends who had been in attendance. Quite often, when given that much time to dwell on a particular event, my expectations are far greater than what I experience when the event actually happens. Fortunately, the Lord saw fit to meet my needs and surpass my expectations.

I arrived at the campgrounds on Friday evening with a desire to improve the spiritual consistency in my life. I had been plagued by the often-encountered situation of “the spirit” being willing to be more dedicated but “the flesh” too weak to accomplish this goal. In answer to this need, I was met with a weekend that provided, among other things, knowledge, inspiration and a challenge. Not only did our classes provide a doctrinal foundation for my personal life, but the idea was again reinforced that we are called to share this wonderful gospel message with everyone.

I was very blessed by the missionary testimonies that were shared in our final class by Doug Smith. Each testimony Brother Doug shared with us made it very clear that the situations he has encountered around the world are often found in my life; and that being a missionary doesn't require a special title or ministry in faraway lands.

The classes did a wonderful job building upon one another to more fully demonstrate what each individual member and, more importantly, the body of Christ as a whole, can accomplish as we respond to the call of Christ. The classes were accompanied by worship services and prayer and testimony services that provided an extra opportunity for me to be considered a good and faithful servant.

Bringing The Book of Mormon to Life

by Jeff Ballantyne and Deborah Bird

We had the wonderful opportunity to attend the 2004 Book of Mormon Retreat. It was a lot of fun, and we got to know some new people. Thinking back to highlights of the weekend, the character sketches seemed to have a great impact on both Deborah and me. In these sketches, Book of Mormon characters were portrayed and spoke as though we were all present at the time they walked this earth. This was a really eye-opening experience for both of us because we realized what the people of that time must have gone through and the feelings they had.

Sariah, Lehi's wife, spoke to us about the struggle it was for her to trust in the Lord and in the direction of her husband as her sons were sent back to obtain the plates of brass from Laban. We could feel the anxiety as she worried for her sons and pled with the Lord to bring them back to her safe-

Book of Mormon Name Scramble

Match each pair of letters in Column A with letters from Columns B and C to form names from The Book of Mormon. Each pair will be used only once. Do not switch the order of a pair of letters.

	A	B	C
1. _____	MO	UL	EL
2. _____	LA	RM	AH
3. _____	JO	RI	PH
4. _____	IS	SE	AH
5. _____	MO	MO	EK
6. _____	AM	SI	NI

BMF Library Gets New Look

The Book of Mormon Foundation's resource library is taking on a new look as the entire library is restructured from top to bottom. We have been privileged to have Genie Simmons, who has a master's degree in library science, volunteer to catalog and organize our thousands of books to make a more useful working library. She is now being assisted by her mother-in-law, Verneil, in this effort. One of the greatest features she is implementing in the library is a computerized card catalog, eliminating the need to manually search for a book. Our thanks go to Genie for her tireless effort in helping the saints of the centerplace. †

The Witness

Number 110 • Spring 2004

Published quarterly by
The Book of Mormon Foundation
 210 West White Oak
 Independence, MO 64050
 Tel: 816-461-3722 • Fax: 816-461-5850
 bmfoundation@aol.com • www.bomf.org

Board of Directors
President Marlin Guin
Vice President Dale Godfrey
Treasurer Gary Lair
Secretary Michelle White
 Barb Capps
 Linda Guin
 Jeff Ballantyne
 Linda Trimble
 Bonnie Anderson

THE WITNESS Committee
 Pat Baggette
 Linda Guin
 Kathy Keller
 Dennis Moe
 Cheryl Scofield
 Larry Scofield
 Tara Simmons
 Kathy Vogt

Office Manager Dennis Moe • *Graphic Designer* Tara Simmons

The Book of Mormon Foundation is a nonprofit corporation composed of individuals who desire to promote The Book of Mormon and its witness of Jesus Christ.

Through research, publications, seminars and related projects, members of The Book of Mormon Foundation seek to assist in bringing forth the light contained in The Book of Mormon.

A contribution to The Book of Mormon Foundation is tax deductible. Financials are available upon request.

Articles and the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the view of The Book of Mormon Foundation. Unsigned articles are attributable to the Foundation.

Bringing the Book of Mormon to Life

Continued from page 7

ly. Our hearts were lifted up with hers when she saw how the Lord had blessed and provided as He had promised. We also got to know Coriantumr as he shared with us in the trials and battles that he went through in his life.

These experiences meant so much because they brought to life the stories that we have read so many times. We felt personally connected to these men and women in the scriptures, and again the truth of these things was confirmed to us.

The retreat helped us remember the promise that the gospel would go forth to the Lamanites and our role in that work. It was truly a blessing to share in this retreat, and we are left with the determination to go forward and assist in that great work to which we have been called with a greater urgency and commitment to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. †

New to the BMF Board:

Jeff Ballantyne
Michelle White

Re-elected:

Barb Capps
Linda Guin

Officers:

President — Marlin Guin
Vice — Dale Godfrey
Treasurer — Gary Lair
Secretary — Michelle White



Nonprofit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Independence, MO
 Permit No. 123

Address Service Requested

210 West White Oak
 Independence, MO 64050

THE BOOK OF MORMON FOUNDATION

The Witness