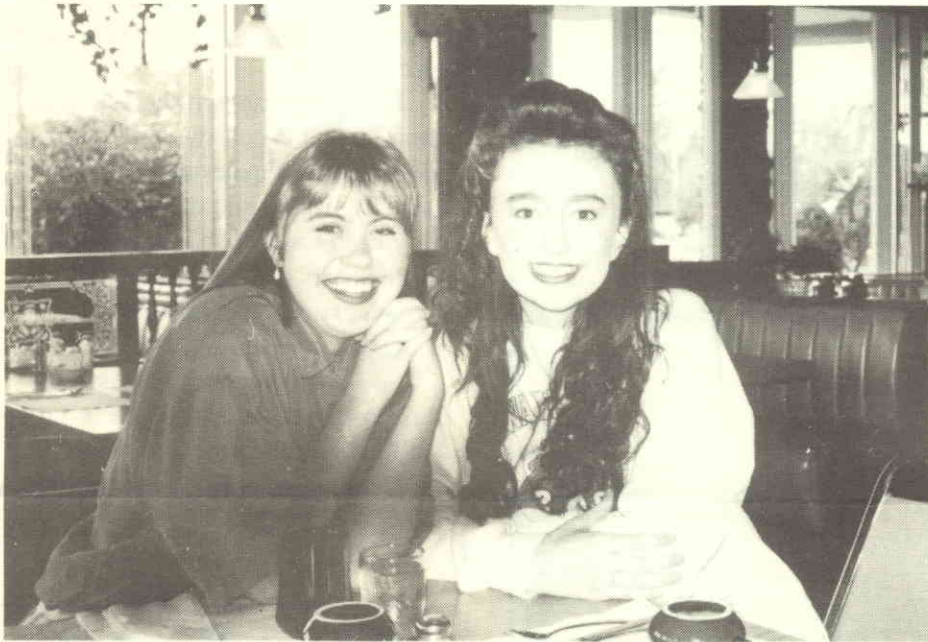


# MIGHTY SUMMONS

A quarterly report to Helaman's Two Thousand

Vol. 7 No. 1 Foundation for Research on Ancient America January 1994



## Detroit Area Book of Mormon Day

**A**my Whitcomb of Clio, Michigan, and Elizabeth Browne of Blue Springs, Missouri, 1993 FRAA summer interns pictured above, participated in the Sunday Book of Mormon Day at Detroit, Michigan, September 25, 1993. Other interns who contributed to the day's program were Jared Anderson, Mike Moores, and Aaron Smith. Don and Pat Beebe, Dale Godfrey, and Ed Slauter represented the FRAA staff. The program included drama, testimonies, films, and slide presentations.

In 1993 FRAA shared in Sunday morning programs centered around The Book of Mormon in 11 different groups, including Resthaven and Reynosa, Mexico. If your branch or congregation has not yet hosted a Book of Mormon Sunday morning, why not call the Foundation and schedule one? Call (816) 461-FRAA (3722).

In addition, individual members from FRAA are available to present classes or a series on The Book of Mormon. For example, Frank Frye and Lyle Smith joined together in February of 1993 for a week-long series in Odessa, Missouri; Lyle Smith has shared twice this year on a Saturday evening and Sunday morning with the Des Moines Restoration Branch, and others from FRAA have given special Sunday school classes.

If your congregation is looking for ministry focusing on The Book of Mormon, call the Foundation to make arrangements.

## Help Helaman's Two Thousand Grow!

**T**he year 1994 is a year for commitment and action! Join with us as we diligently work to increase HTT membership to 2000!

Do you remember the survey you received last summer as a member of HTT? One of the questions was "How do you feel FRAA could expand membership in HTT?" Although only 33 responded, many gave good ideas.

Some wrote that you would be willing to inform your brothers and sisters in your congregations or your friends and family about the FRAA HTT program. We want to help you accomplish this. In the near future a special brochure about HTT and the Foundation will be available. You can give this to others when you share with them how they can become an integral part of Book of Mormon research and witnessing.

Remember the words which gave birth to this newsletter title:

*God is marshaling his army  
For the rescue of his truth  
He is calling now to battle  
Both the aged and the youth.  
You can hear his mighty summons  
In the thunder of his word:  
Let us then be valiant soldiers  
In the army of the Lord!*

The Hymnal #321

Won't you help? As a start, give this issue away to someone you know and invite him or her to become part of a vital program supporting the study and promotion of The Book of Mormon. See HTT membership benefits listed in this issue.

## Membership Benefits for Helaman's Two Thousand

### \* **MIGHTY SUMMONS Newsletter**

You receive the *MIGHTY SUMMONS*, FRAA's quarterly newsletter, which keeps you up-to-date on how FRAA uses your contributions to accomplish its goals. Only members of HTT receive this newsletter.

### \* **The Witness Magazine**

You receive quarterly the full-color magazine *The Witness* where you can read faith-strengthening testimonies, grow in "a knowledge of countries and of kingdoms" (D&C 85:21e), "become acquainted with. . .languages, tongues, and people" (D&C 87:5b), and learn precious truths found in the *The Book of Mormon* and how the Lord is moving with "power and great glory" (2 Nephi 15:13; Moroni 7:37) to show forth its truth.

### \* **Discounts on Merchandise**

Membership in HTT entitles you to a 10% discount on all purchases from the bookstore and mail-order catalog. You also receive a one-time 15% discount on any newly acquired item in the bookstore.

### \* **Seminars and Classes**

You receive first consideration for classes and seminars and receive a 20% discount on fees.

The **MAJOR BENEFIT**, however, is knowing you were responsible for helping to bring forth more light and truth about *The Book of Mormon* and for making a difference for good in people's lives. One of FRAA's summer interns, Amy Whitcomb, wrote, "How can you ever place enough importance on an experience that changes your whole life? This internship has done just that."

## Requirements for HTT Membership

You either contribute monthly any amount or give an annual contribution of at least \$50. Also, traveling on FRAA tours entitles you to membership in HTT as the tour fee includes a \$100 donation to FRAA.

## Available at FRAA

### **The Restitution**

By Bob Moore

God has a plan for America. He has a plan for the descendants of Israel. God has a plan for the establishment of his kingdom.

All these plans are interwoven. The ancient covenants, their meaning and fulfillment, their relationship to America, and their culmination in the restoration, are explored in *The Restitution*. With so much of the work revealed through and entrusted to the prophet Joseph Smith already accomplished, readers can rest assured of its completion.

Paperback      \$9.00

## More Than 40 Book Stewards Help FRAA

Representatives from different branches and groups have been selected to act as FRAA book stewards promoting the books and other items sold at FRAA. December 5th was the official beginning of this venture with book fairs held in many branches. A book fair provides people an opportunity to review materials before ordering. A printed catalog is also available.

The book fairs will be held four times a year. Book stewards will be given selected materials from the store to display and the items will vary each time. As book stewards place orders and sell books, the branch earns credit for FRAA-produced materials.

So far 40 branches have joined this program. If your branch or group isn't yet participating and would like to, please contact Pat Beebe at FRAA, (816) 461-3722.

## Where We Are

As of December 31, 1993

Members of Helaman's Two Thousand  
\*Units (households)  
Organizations (like branches)

Income from members of HTT  
Total 1993 income (approximate)  
Last year's income from HTT

\*We have changed our method for counting households. That is why the number of households for 1993 is 847, compared to 1091 in 1992.

Contributions in HTT ran \$14,008.40 in 1993. Gifts made by members of HTT to the in-kind matching grant are not reflected in these figures. The difference between last year and this year is \$1,000.00.

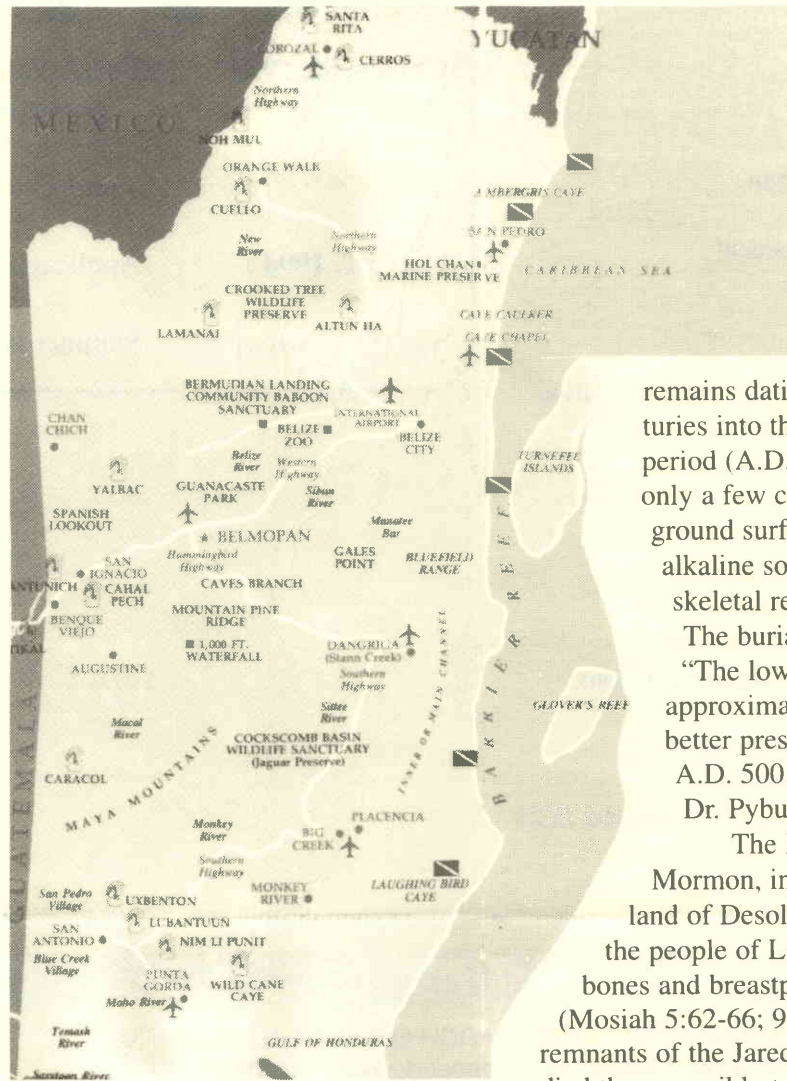
## Archaeology News

Gaylord E. Shaw, Ph.D.

On November 2nd several members of the Foundation attended an illustrated lecture about the site of Chau Hiix (Chow Wheesh), Belize, Central America. Brett Methner, a former FRAA student intern and history major from Graceland College, also attended, along with two other Graceland students.

Dr. K. Anne Pyburn, assistant professor of anthropology at Indiana University, presented the lecture at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Dr. Pyburn had investigated house mounds at Nohmul and other places in Belize until the time she was asked to go to this site. A sensitive, caring individual, Dr. Pyburn believes that sites should be explored and preserved for the people who live at or near their location today.

Officials from Crooked Tree in northern Belize, a town adjacent to Chau Hiix, contacted her and asked her to investigate the site. The local



remains dating several centuries into the Classic Maya period (A.D. 250-900) are only a few centimeters below ground surface. The highly alkaline soil preserved the skeletal remains very well.

The burials are stacked. "The lower layers (from) approximately 500 B.C. are better preserved than the A.D. 500 upper layers," Dr. Pyburn said.

The Book of Mormon, in describing the land of Desolation found by the people of Limhi, tells of dry bones and breastplates and swords (Mosiah 5:62-66; 9:167). These remnants of the Jaredites, who had died there possibly two to four hundred years before their discovery by the people of Limhi, would require the kind of soil for preservation similar to the alkaline conditions encountered at Chau Hiix which has preserved the remains so well.

Raised field agriculture, dams and reservoirs, and elevated roads suggest further excavation here will yield important new data on Maya technology. The site has at least one pyramid 70 feet high similar to that of Altun Ha to the east and Lamanai to the west.

Dr. Pyburn welcomes and encourages visitors. Chau Hiix can be reached by Crooked Tree or by waterway through rivers and lagoons.

village of Crooked Tree has protected the site for generations. It is one of the few unlooted Maya cities still in existence. Many artifacts were still on ground surface level.

The first full-scale excavation of Chau Hiix began in the summer of 1993. On first viewing the site, Dr. Pyburn stated, "We did not feel we had visited an archaeological site, but an abandoned and very beautiful place, somehow still alive after hundreds of years of solitude." Pottery in the Swasey style, dating around 1300-1500 B.C., was found, making Chau Hiix as old as any of the earliest sites in the Maya area.

A particularly important feature of the site are the burials. Skeletal

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which include many people) 847  
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figures. This may account for some of  
year.

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*God is marshaling his army  
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Both the aged and the youth.  
You can hear his **mighty summons**  
In the thunder of his word;  
Let us then be valiant soldiers  
In the army of the Lord!*

The Hymnal #321

## Coming Up

January 16, 1994  
3:00 P.M.

FRAA Annual Meeting  
Center Place Restoration School  
Waldo Avenue  
Independence, Missouri

March 1, 1994

Applications for summer intern program due.

June 13 – August 5

Summer Book of Mormon Internship Program



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