
EDITOR'S NOTE

The year 2023 has been a period of much change for the journal, although some things remain the same, including Kansas State's partnership with the Kansas Historical Foundation (KHF). Eric Broman remains our indispensable associate editor, and we still have two editorial assistants, September Gering and Jake Brown, who keep our office running. Joshua Smith efficiently handles our layout design, Connie Oehring is our capable copy editor, and Mary Mortensen meticulously compiles our annual index. It is also lovely to work with the knowledgeable professionals at the Kansas Historical Society on website updates, image permissions, and other projects. Our longtime printing partner, Allen Press, was sold to Sheridan Group earlier this year, but we have so enjoyed working with its Lawrence office, including Trisha Guttridge and Kathy Lafferty. I am deeply grateful for everyone's hard work. *Kansas History* would not exist without these folks' diligence and energy.

We have a new team member to introduce: Chase Billingham. Our fantastic book review editor, Kelly Erby, has stepped down to focus on administrative commitments at Washburn University, where she will continue to teach Kansas history. Kelly, we hope to see you in these pages again. Kelly's role is now filled by Chase Billingham, a sociologist at Wichita State University, who has taken on this job with enthusiasm. Chase's research examines educational stratification, neighborhood dynamics in American cities, and urban social history, with a particular focus on the history of the city of Wichita. Along with two articles in *Kansas History* on historical developments in Wichita, Chase has published sociological and historical scholarship

in *Urban Studies*, *Sociology of Education*, *City & Community*, and a wide variety of other outlets. We are looking forward to working with him, so please extend a heartfelt welcome!

This past year, the editorial staff has also been steadily improving readers' experiences and increasing opportunities for connection. One public engagement project in the works is a refreshed media presence and updated podcast. Jim McLean, a veteran journalist known for his excellent reporting at Kansas News Service and KCUR, has joined the KHF board and will now be spearheading these initiatives. We have not posted any podcast episodes for the past few years due to time constraints during the pandemic and staff shortages. Author interviews will continue to be the bread and butter of our channel, with opportunities for expansion in the future. Stay tuned for more details.

Another initiative this year has been to update our logo and refresh our social media, which included creating a LinkTree (linktr.ee/kshistoryjournal). This is a short link appropriate for social media that redirects to a longer list of relevant links, including the KHF membership form and our editorial policies. We also recognize that the number of digital resources continues to grow, so we created two Padlets curating primary and secondary source websites relevant to Kansas history—these are a resource for both authors and readers. (Padlet works similarly to Pinterest but does not require a login, making it more accessible.) Please check these out at padlet.com/khjournalkansasprimarysources and padlet.com/khjournalkansassecondarysources.

The journal's editorial advisory board, composed of Kansas historians, provides sage advice on major decisions and challenges, and we must thank two integral members who have decided to step down after many years of service. Matt Veatch, former state archivist, has retired and now spends his days and evenings birdwatching at Baker Wetlands, hiking in Arizona, or sightseeing in Europe. His institutional knowledge and perspective as a KSHS employee built continuity during these past years of transition. Bonnie Lynn-Sherow has also retired from Kansas State University and our board. At KSU, she taught Indigenous history, agricultural history, and graduate courses on nineteenth-century America; she also served as founding director of the Chapman Center for Rural Studies from 2007 to 2019, raising its profile within the College of Arts and Sciences and winning two National Endowment for the Humanities grants. Bonnie now resides on Vancouver Island with her spouse, our very own former editor, Jim Sherow. They frequent farmers' markets, watch whales hunt and play, and enjoy the splendor of the outdoors. We are so grateful for their dedication to the journal.

Partially filling their shoes is a Kansas historian whose name might ring familiar: Juti Winchester, who teaches at Fort Hays State University. Juti has most recently been a guest editor for the special issue on the Santa Fe Trail that we published in 2021 in conjunction with the trail's bicentennial. For that issue, she also contributed an article on the Arizona governor's party trip on the Santa Fe Trail, and her other primary publications center on Buffalo Bill Cody. We look forward to having her on our board.

This past year, we have published outstanding articles on topics ranging from Indigenous history and the Kaw Nation to the Women's Progressive Political League to sundown towns and racial exclusion, to name only a few examples of excellent

historical scholarship that have appeared within our pages. If you have a project in the works, please review some of our previously published articles and our editorial policies, available at www.k-state.edu/history/research/kansas-history/. In addition to traditional academic articles, we periodically publish relevant primary sources and are beginning a series wherein we reprint past articles from the *Kansas Historical Quarterly* with new forewords by today's scholars.

As some of you know, the Kansas Historical Foundation has implemented a new membership model, which it announced in April. We are no longer able to provide subscriptions directly from our KSU office, so to continue your journal subscription, please be sure to join the KHF (or renew) at the associate level or higher. You can learn more about membership levels at www.kshs.org/p/join-or-renew/18918.

Writing this outside on an unseasonably cool August day, surrounded by snow-on-the-mountain and the ubiquitous sunflower, I am struck again by Kansas's beauty. It remains a great honor to call myself an adopted Kansan. From our office here in Manhattan, we send you all well wishes for these final months of 2023.

Dr. Kristen Epps
Editor