The Kansas State Historical Society was organized in 1875 by the newspaper editors and publishers of the state, and four years later it became the official trustee for the state's historical collections. Since then, the Society has operated both as a non-profit membership organization and as a specially recognized society supported by appropriations from the state of Kansas.

The purposes of the Society are the advancement of knowledge about and the preservation of resources related to the history and prehistory of Kansas and the American West, accomplished through educational and cultural programs, the provision of research services, and the protection of historic properties. The Society is governed by a ninety-nine-member board of directors, elected by the membership, and is administered by an executive director and an assistant executive director.

This issue also features two articles that focus on the people who were a part of Kansas' oil boom years, and the fourth article presented here revives the message of the Santa Fe agricultural demonstration trains.

You will notice a new section in Kansas History. “Kansas Bookshelf” includes books that in some way portray Kansas history and subjects. The “Bookshelf” is a listing of Kansas town, county, and church histories; historical records; and other Kansas subjects. It does not replace the “Bookends” in the Mirror, the Society's newsletter; it is intended to be an additional source of information for those interested in Kansas-related books. Publications received by the Historical Society's library will be listed either in "Kansas Bookshelf” or in the Mirror's “Bookends.”
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by Grace Dohler

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Book Reviews

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Kansas Bookshelf

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