

"Exoduster" Sally Board: *An American Heritage: From Kentucky Slavery to a Kansas Homestead, 1805-1892*. By Ray O. Pleasant and Jon P. Neill. (Chaska, Minn.: Ray O. Pleasant, 2004. 154 pages, paper \$35.00.)

Focusing on Sally Board, the daughter of a white Kentuckian and an African slave, Ray O. Pleasant and Jon P. Neill present here a volume of biographical and genealogical information on the Boards and the family of Eliza Bradshaw, the subject of a summer 2003 *Kansas History* article. The volume contains short biographical sketches, Kentucky and Kansas census data, correspondence, official government documents, photographs, and many other items of potential interest to the genealogist and possibly to the historian seeking information about individual exodusters such as Sally Board.

God, Country and Self-Interest: A Social History of the World War II Rank and File. By Toby Terrar. (Silver Spring, Md.: CW Press, 2004. xxvii + 382 pages, paper \$9.95.)

Based in large part on a rather immense collection of family letters and photographs from the 1940s, *God, Country and Self-Interest* tells the story of the "rank and file" through the lives of the author's parents, Hazel Hogan and Edward Terrar Jr., who met and married while serving in the U.S. Navy. Ed Terrar, a CVE carrier pilot who fought in the South Pacific, hailed from Coffeyville, Kansas; the future Hazel Terrar came from Sumter, South Carolina. In addition to their respective and joint wartime experiences, the volume covers their "preparation" for service and offers some insight into the "home front," both in Kansas and South Carolina.

Peter S. Petersen's Memoirs. By Peter S. Peterson, edited by John W. Nielsen with Karsten Jer Michaelsen. (Blair, Neb.: Lur Publications, Danish Immigrant Archives, 2003. xii + 248 pages, paper \$27.50.)

As with their other publications on "Danes in America," such as *Danes in America: Kansas and Nebraska*, the Danish Immigrant Archives, John W. Nielsen, and several other collaborators have made yet another useful contribution to Plains immigrant literature with the publication of *Peter S. Petersen's Memoirs*, which mainly covers the years 1872 to 1895. Petersen (1861-1953), who penned the original 641-page manuscript in the 1930s, emigrated to the U.S. as a boy in 1872 and settled with his family on a farm near Danneborg, Howard County, Nebraska, but also lived and worked for a time in Wyoming, where he was involved in railroading and ranching.

The True Life Wild West Memoir of a Bush-Popping Cow Waddy. By Charley Hester, ed. by Kirby Ross. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004. xix + 141 pages, paper \$13.95.)

Edited by his great-great-grandson Kirby Ross, himself a Kansas resident, Charley Hester's story of cowboy life and adventure on the Plains in the 1870s, as told to a local Nebraska his-

torian, makes up the core of this interesting little volume. After spending much of the 1870s trailing cattle from Texas and making the acquaintance of some legendary western characters, Hester (1853-1940) returned to his native Illinois, married, and eventually moved back to western Kansas (Phillips County) and then to Nebraska.

Americano: My Journey to the Dream. By Thomas Rodriguez. (Topeka: Amigos Publishing Co., 2004. xx + 420 pages, cloth \$20.00.)

Thomas Rodriguez, an author and educator who now lives in Las Vegas, Nevada, was born and raised in Topeka, Kansas, where his grandparents emigrated and settled in the 1910s. An interesting and important memoir for anyone desirous of a better understanding of cultural diversity in Topeka and the Midwest, *Americano* contains an insightful chapter on Chicano activism in Topeka during the 1970s and early 1980s. "In retrospect," writes Rodriguez, himself a young activist leader, "what we accomplished during the 1970s was downright amazing considering the immigrant backgrounds of our parents and grandparents" and "the pervasive and stifling ethnic and economic discrimination that existed in the City of Topeka and in the State of Kansas during our formative years."

To the Pike's Peak Gold Fields, 1859. Edited by Leroy R. Hafen. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004. xii + 320 pages, paper \$17.95.)

Originally published as *Overland Routes to the Gold Fields, 1859* by Arthur H. Clark in 1942, *Bison Books To the Pike's Peak Gold Fields, 1859* contains diaries, journals, and letters by travelers on the Arkansas River, Platte River, the Smoky Hill Trail, and the Leavenworth and Pike's Peak Express routes, as well as diary entries covering trips from St. Joseph to Fort Kearny and Texas to Pike's Peak. Since, as Appendix A ("The Great Central Route to the Gold Mines of Western Kansas—Notes of Travel") reminds us, the Pike's Peak region was part of Kansas Territory, many readers of *Kansas History* will find much of interest in these first-person accounts.

Our Padre: The Inspiring Life and Stories of Fr. Kilian Dreiling, C.P.P.S WWII Army Chaplain. By Joseph S. Smith. (Indianapolis: Printing Partners, 2004. v + 220 pages, paper \$18.00.)

In *Our Padre*, author Joseph S. Smith tells the story of a personal "hero," a man of the cloth he admired for many years, in the hope "that in some small way, Fr. Kilian's life and his beautiful stories may touch your heart, as they touched mine." Born on a farm near Victoria, Kansas, to Volga German parents, Father Kilian Dreiling (1906-1996) served as an army chaplain in Europe, before and after the war, taught in seminaries in Indiana and Ohio, and spoke out against "the evils of communism" during the 1950s, becoming, according to Smith, "one of the fiercest warriors of the Cold War."