



NEWS

AUTUMN 2015

from The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City

Dedicated to the recognition, preservation and restoration of greater Kansas City's unique heritage.

Let the Celebration begin!

The Outstanding Kansas Citian Gala is here! Don't miss it!



lease join us as we honor Mayor Kay Barnes and recognize the Ethnic Enrichment Commission.

The committee members have worked hard to get wonderful items for the silent auction and great food and drinks. Plus the Chuck Eddy Band will be there for your entertainment!

Please join us on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 in the Grand Ballroom of the Kansas City Convention Center at 16th Street and Central Avenue. Reception and silent auction is at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m. and the program is at 8:00 p.m.

This event gets bigger and better. OKC tickets have been reduced to \$100 a ticket to make it easier for more of our membership to attend so please support our cause by being a part of this great celebration.

R.S.V.P. by October 30!

Valet parking will be available at 16th

& Wyandotte. Other parking is at Barney Allis Plaza or the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts.

The OKC is the only fundraiser that we do each year so please help us by attending and providing us with an auction item. We have a lot of exciting items but need a few more. Please call Diane Pepper at 816-719-1044 and she would be glad to pick up your item.

Kay made KC history!

Kay, on her birthday in 1999, made history by becoming the first woman to serve as Kansas City's Mayor.

If you were in the Power and Light District to celebrate the Royals winning American League Championship Series games this week you can thank Mayor Kay Barnes.

If you plan to go to the Sprint Center anytime between now and

the end of the year you will see Stevie Wonder, Janet Jackson, Juan Gabriel, America Recycles Day, 2015 CBE Hall of Fame Classic, WWE Live Holiday Tour, Oregon St. vs. Kansas, and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. WOW! Who do we need to thank... Mayor Kay Barnes!

Because of Kay in 2004, the world's largest tax services provider, H&R Block, broke ground for their 525,000 sq. ft. complex and now it is the heart of the Power & Light District, a nine-block mixed-use complex of restaurants, shopping, entertainment, residences and offices.

Connecting the community

The Ethnic Enrichment Commission is very important to Carl DiCapo, our President and the community. He, along with John and Carol Duncan, Leonard Pryor, Chet Ellis and Louise Birt, are the founders of the Commission. "The Commission with membership of over 60 countries continues to foster

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JOIN The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City to honor **Mayor KAY BARNES** as an Outstanding Kansas Citian

and recognize the Ethnic Enrichment Commission

November 10, 2015 • Grand Ballroom
Kansas City Convention Center



Register at
NSDKC.org



The President's Message

To all our members:

This year, as in years past, we have continued to preserve area history and meet prospective members with our Meet & Greets at historic locations in the city.

In the spring, John Hess, Jr., organized an evening for NSDKC members to be guests at the home of Frank and Ann Uryasz in Janssen Place. It was a special event that allowed us to experience the lifestyle and architecture of that famed neighborhood.

In early summer, George Guastello, president and CEO of Union Station, provided private tours of the station while our members enjoyed selected wines and appetizers.

Later in the summer, we enjoyed a private picnic at the Kansas City Museum at Corinthian Hall. Kansas City Parks and Recreation helped with the picnic, while Anna Marie Tutera, Executive Director of the museum gave us tours highlighting the mansion's original architecture. Take a moment to look at the pictures of these events in our photo gallery at www.NSDKC.org.

In August, NSDKC began its celebration of this year's Outstanding Kansas Citian festivities by participating in the 37th annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival. We joined more than 60 other cultural organizations with a booth to share NSDKC's history with the community.

Have you marked your calendar for the 2015 Outstanding Kansas Citian Award Dinner? This year's Outstanding Kansas Citian, former Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes, and the Ethnic Enrichment Commission have been important parts of my life. My career was spent in downtown Kansas City. I saw it in the days of hustle and bustle and saw it in its declining years. I cannot express how happy I am to have lived to see it revitalized. The foresight of Kay Barnes to lead the fight that brought renewed energy and life to our downtown makes her a special Outstanding Kansas Citian.

At the same time, to honor the Ethnic Enrichment Commission brings to full circle an important part of my service to the community. In 1977, I co-chaired the founding of the Ethnic Enrichment Commission, a program whose groundwork had been laid a year earlier while I chaired the city's participation in the national bicentennial celebration. Kansas City received honors for this effort from the National Bicentennial Committee. I am delighted to see how it has grown and become a special part of our community.

As we celebrate our history, NSDKC also builds new pathways to ensure that our past remains relevant. This year, we established the Founder's membership level. Under the direction of Chris Sizemore, 16 organizations now belong to that group.

Finally, I want to announce that we have reached an agreement with the city to erect a monument to honor the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City. We believe the monument will be placed in a park-like setting near 43rd and Southwest Trafficway. You'll hear more about this as plans are finalized, but I am pleased to see the work of our organization recognized and held in honor by the community.

We have elected our 2016 officers and board members at the annual meeting and are prepared to begin to look ahead to next year. What an honor it has been for me to lead The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City!



2015 President Carl DiCapo

Carl DiCapo, President



OFFICERS & STAFF

Carl DiCapo
President

John Hess, Jr.
1st Vice President

Diane Boos Pepper
2nd Vice President

Mike Burke
Treasurer

Steve Noll
Secretary

John Dunnewind
Historian

Ross Marshall
Immediate Past President

A list of all committees and committee chairs is available at NSDKC.org

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MISSION

The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City, Inc. is dedicated to the historic preservation of the unique and rich heritage of the greater Kansas City metropolitan area, both in Missouri and Kansas, through advocacy, education and restoration. It also seeks to preserve and maintain archives of historical interest relating to the development of the Kansas City region and to recognize individuals who have resided therein and contributed to such development.



Annual Meeting held October 14

The Annual Membership and Board meeting was held October 14, 2015 at the Milano Restaurant at Crown Center. We had a good turnout of members and guests enjoying their wonderful Italian buffet dinner.

The membership meeting was called to order by President Carl DiCapo after dinner, who gave a brief summary of our 2015 activities and accomplishments. One of the main items of business was to elect our Board of Directors for 2016. The nominating committee consisted of Carl DiCapo, John Hess, Jr., Diane Pepper, Chuck Eddy, John Dunnewind, Gary Hicks and Chair Ross Marshall.

Those finishing terms and leaving the Board were John Hess, Sr., Dave Baumgartner, Chris Sizemore, Frank McMillian and Kevin Fewell. Those elected to three-year terms were: John Dunnewind for a third term, and Nancy Elder, Lisa Hickok, Todd Newton, Jim Flanagan and Bryan Flanagan for first terms. Remaining on the Board are Diane Boos Pepper, Allen Dillingham, Anna O'Hare, Jeannie Hicks, Henry Leonard, Dick Retrum, Carl DiCapo, John Hess, Jr., Sharon Scott, Robert Corum, Steve Noll and Mike Burke.

The Board meeting was then called to order by Carl. One of the key items of business was to elect officers for 2016. Elected were President John Hess, Jr., 1st Vice President Diane Boos Pepper, 2nd Vice President Steve Noll, Treasurer Jim Flanagan, Secretary John Dunnewind and Historian Nancy Elder.



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understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity in the Greater Kansas City area.”

We will recognize them by placing one of our historical markers in Swope Park, which will list all of their ethnic groups.

Visit our website at http://nsdkc.org/historic_markers to see the new map where all of our markers are located!

This year Carl DiCapo established a new program within our organization: The Founders Group, which recognizes companies founded in the metro area and are part of the Kansas City heritage. In a few months, we gained 16 company members which we will honor during our OKC celebration. If you know of anyone who would like to join the NSDKC Founders Group please let Carl know.

Progress on Native Sons & Daughters Monument

On Monday, Oct 5, an NSDKC committee led by President Carl DiCapo met with members of the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Board to discuss alternative locations for placement of the proposed NSDKC monument. Several options have previously been considered, but the focus at this meeting was one of the most highly visible and accessible locations in mid-town Kansas City at 43rd and Southwest Trafficway.

Since that meeting, Carl has continued to meet with city officials to finalize this decision.

The NSDKC Monument Committee is excited about this proposed location and appreciates its partnership with Kansas City Parks and Recreation on this project.

In 2013, the Board approved the concept and preliminary design of the monument which will be dedicated to and represents:

- The people who explored and occupied the land of what has become the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area
- The pioneers whose vision, fortitude and dedication were the foundations upon which Kansas City would rise
- The pioneers who were part of the great Western Expansion migration movement of the 1800s, which nurtured the growth and development of this region
- The visionaries, entrepreneurs, and ‘founders’ who built the industries and trades which became the strong fabric of commerce for our community
- The arts and sciences which enhance the quality and value of our Kansas City experience
- Education and research which is a cornerstone of our Greater Kansas City community
- The mission of The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City and the 10 regional counties it serves on both the Kansas and Missouri sides of the State Line
- Those native sons and daughters of an earlier era who organized and sought to preserve the history and heritage of our area’s past.

Gary L. Hicks
NSDKC Monument Committee Co-chair

Upcoming marker dedications

The Historical Markers Committee is awaiting delivery on two markers that will be dedicated within the next month. Final dates are being determined at the time of this newsletter publication. When each of the dates is final, email blasts will be sent out to our members.

Ethnic Enrichment Commission marker

This marker will be presented to the Commission at the Outstanding Kansas Citian Gala on the evening of November 10. Likely the dedication will take place about a week later.

The location will be near the Meyer Boulevard entrance to Swope Park.

Harlem marker

The marker will be installed the week of November 16. The dedication will likely be November 20.

The location is on the roundabout next to the Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport at the north end of the Broadway Bridge.



Ross Marshall, Chair
Historical Markers Committee

2015 Ethnic Enrichment Festival OR Feel the World Beat in the Heart of America

What is Kansas City known for? Certainly the Kansas City Royals, the Kansas City Chiefs and Kansas City Sporting, all of which have made our city proud.

However, there is a lesser known event that has existed and prospered for over 35 years in Kansas City, and to the city's diverse population, rivals the above mentioned athletic teams.

The 36th Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival was held the weekend of August 21 – 23 in Swope Park during, what many would say was the best festival weather ever! The sun was bright, the sky was clear and the crowds were extremely large. The Festival was not the only thing in town that weekend. We “competed” against the Kansas City Air Show, a Friday night Chiefs game, three successive nights of Starlight Shows, and still had record breaking crowds. How can a Midwestern average sized City support all these activities?

As it turns out, very easily. We just have to sit back and pick and choose what we want to do on the weekends. Since the Festival has been around so long and we have strived to keep it on the same weekend each year, it has a significant following. We have also found out that many of our guests photographed the foods being offered and posted them on Facebook for their friends and followers.

There is nothing better than to share the sweet smells of various ethnic foods being prepared at our Festival site. Watching a tent full of Bolivian women sitting around a table preparing Empanadas for serving later in the day; seeing how Indian Fry Bread is prepared for Indian Tacos; watching as the Irish Commission sells massive amounts of smoked turkey legs. These are the sights, sounds and smells of the Festival.

This year, we hosted over 42,000 visitors as they came to enjoy the food,



At left above is NSDKC President Carl DiCapo with Gary Hicks in front of our shared booth at the Festival. Behind Carl is a mock-up of the plaque text that will be presented to the Ethnic Enrichment Commission at the OKC event on November 10.



Above is the annual Nations Flag Parade at the Festival. Note Carl DiCapo bearing the Italian flag at right.

music, dance, crafts and culture of 60 different groups that belong to the Ethnic Enrichment Commission.

Are we a “home grown festival”? You bet we are and proud of it. Our Ethnic folks contribute over 15,000 hours of time to share who they are with the citizens of mid-America. And the involvement is not just at the festival. The Ethnic Commission shares their culture at over 600 outreach opportunities each year. As a result,

the local group which began as 20 or so interested ethnic groups in 1976 has become a wonderful outreach of the diversity of the metropolitan area. Check us out at www.eeckc.net.

A special thanks to NSDKC 2nd Vice President Diane Pepper for managing the NSDKC booth for the three days of the Festival.

Article by Melinda Minks, EEC Commissioner

Lewis & Clark Convention a first for Kansas City

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation held their 47th Annual Convention on August 1-5 this past summer in Kansas City. It was the first time their convention has been held here and it was very successful.

Approximately 160 people were in attendance from all over the nation to celebrate and learn about the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail that passes through Kansas City on the Missouri River.

Several bus tours and speakers, along with the usual membership meetings and dinners, were enjoyed by the attendees. The feedback from the attendees was very positive about how they enjoyed the history and sites in the Kansas City area. The convention headquarters was at the Argosy Casino and Hotel in Riverside.

The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City was one of the sponsors of this convention. Many of the members of the local host committee are members of NSDKC, such as Yvonne Kean, Dan and Mary Lee Sturdevant, Diane Pepper, Gary and Louise Hicks, and Ross and Shirley Marshall.



President Margaret Gorski at right, addresses one of the meetings

Old Kansas City



1906, Walnut Street downtown Kansas City.

NEW MEMBERS

Tom Krahenbuhl

IN MEMORIAM

Bob Sigman

Tom Scott

Bruce Pennington



2015 CALENDAR

Monday, November 2, 11:00 am

Past Presidents Lunch

Tuesday, November 10, 6:00 pm

Outstanding Kansas Citian
Gala

Saturday, December 12, 11:00 am

Holiday Brunch
Indian Hills Country Club



SAVE THE DATE

Annual Holiday Brunch

Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015

Cocktails – 11:00 am (Cash Bar)

Holiday Buffet – 11:45 am

Indian Hills Country Club

6847 Tomahawk Road

Mission Hills, KS

Details to come