



NEWS

WINTER 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.



Mayor Kay Barnes
Outstanding Kansas Citian
2015

SAVE THE DATE! THE OUTSTANDING KANSAS CITIAN GALA ON NOV. 10, 2015

Grand Ballroom, Kansas City Convention Center

Honoring Mayor Kay Barnes and recognizing the Ethnic Enrichment Commission

We are excited to honor our mayor who started the Kansas City revival!

BE A SPONSOR

Help preserve our unique history for your children and grandchildren.

Details on NSDKC.org

JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME!

Have fun and celebrate a great mayor and the Ethnic Enrichment Commission while supporting the NSDKC. Learn more and register at NSDKC.org. *Learn more on page 4.*

Outstanding Kansas Citian Gala a big success for NSDKC!



The 2014 Outstanding Kansas Citian event was held on Wednesday evening, October 15, at the Grand Ballroom of the Convention Center. We were very fortunate that the Royals final playoff game was played that afternoon with the Royals winning the game before 6:00 PM. We had a great crowd that enjoyed a wonderful evening recognizing Larry Moore, an award-winning television anchor who, for 40 years, has brought into our homes the news stories of events and history concerning the Greater Kansas City area and the world. In addition, he has had a deep commitment to our metro area,

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The President's Message



It has truly been an exciting year for me to serve as NSDKC President – yes, it is a lot of work – but it is a privilege to help The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City accomplish its mission to preserve the history and heritage of our area. And I certainly plan to continue supporting our organization in the coming years.

NSDKC, as always, has a great number of impressive and dedicated leaders serving as Officers, Board members and on all of our committees. I want to personally thank each of them for their meritorious service.

One of the people that I want to especially thank is Past President Chuck Eddy. He has consistently been an available resource for decision-making, planning, and someone I can ask hard questions and know he will have the answer!

We have had a busy calendar this year and some of these events are covered in this newsletter. Our 2014 annual flagship events were the Outstanding Kansas Citian event on October 15, the Annual Membership and Board meeting on November 12 and the Holiday Brunch on December 6.

In addition, we had two historical marker dedications. The first was the Platte Purchase and Weekly Dale Farm marker on September 6 and the second was the Greater Kansas City Restaurant Association marker on November 11.

Program events included the Truman Library and the Kansas City Zoo. Meet and Greet events were held at the Kansas City Club and Martin City Brewery.

Our new 2015 officers are President Carl DiCapo, 1st Vice President John Hess, Jr., 2nd Vice President Diane Boos Pepper, Treasurer Michael Burke, Secretary Steven Noll, and Historian John Dunnewind. A warm welcome to each one of them. These are people that have already established themselves as key leaders with NSDKC and please look forward to working with each one of them next year, which will be our 85th year of existence.

Thanks to each of you for being members of NSDKC as we anticipate another exciting year focusing on the Kansas City area and its legacies.

Ross Marshall, President

The Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City



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such as serving on countless community boards and leading extensive fundraising activities for community service organizations and public institutions. Particularly noteworthy is his voluntary community work to benefit children through the Greater Kansas City Dream Factory which he helped organize 20 years ago. A cancer survivor, Larry is truly an Outstanding Kansas Citian!

We also honored the Greater Kansas City Restaurant Association with one of our iconic historical markers. The GKCR was established in 1916 and after receiving national attention, led to the formation of the National Restaurant Association. The NRA headquarters remained in Kansas City until 1927 when it moved to Chicago and eventually to Washington, D.C. The GKCR will be hosting the centennial celebration of the NRA in 2016 in Kansas City.

Our Silent Auction Committee helped raise an additional \$5000 for the NSDKC. They had more than 120 special items. One of the most outstanding was the fireman's coat that Mayor Wheeler wore during the 1970s firefighters strike. Our honoree, Larry Moore, helped us sell it in a live auction with Mayor Wheeler by his side. This one item delivered more than \$200 to our organization. Special thanks to Diane Boos Pepper for her help.

Thursday, Feb. 26, 6:00 pm: Union Station Tour & Hors D'oeuvres (tentative)

Friday, Mar. 27: Ollie Gates Barbecue – Frank White speaker (tentative)

★ 2015 CALENDAR ★

Wednesday, April 23, 6:00 pm: Meet & Greet – Mansion tour at 7 Janssen Place in Historic Hyde Park.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 6:00 pm: Annual Membership & Board meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 6:00 pm: Outstanding Kansas Citian



Charlie Wheeler holds the firefighter's coat that he wore during the 1970s firefighter strike. It was sold to benefit the NSDKC. Middle: Larry Moore, right: Chuck Eddy

OKC photos continue



Shannon Hickey, CEO of GKCRA receiving the NSDKC marker at right.



2015 President Carl DiCapo (second from right) welcomes guests.



Right: Dick Retrum (left) helps OKC attendees shop for silent auction items.

Put the OKC on your calendar for Nov. 10!

The Outstanding Kansas Citian Committee is excited to honor Mayor Kay Barnes and commemorate the Ethnic Enrichment Commission!

Kay Barnes is a Kansas City history maker! After she took office in 1999, she began the largest citywide increase in construction since the 1970s resulting in our urban renaissance. Her optimism and never-give-up attitude resulted in an expanded Bartle Hall, Sprint Center, H&R Block headquarters and the Power & Light district to name a few.

We also gained thousands of residential units, new hotels and a continuing demand for more urban housing. Her list of accomplishments is six single-spaced pages! She covered city reforms, promoted diversity, economic development and environmental improvements.

Barnes stated that one of the most satisfying parts of being mayor has been energizing citizens who are passionate about Kansas City and want to make it better. This legacy has continued as people are involved with our city more than ever.

I think Kay Barnes will be more appreciated in hindsight than even the high regard people have for her today. It's more than just bricks and mortar. It's going to change the momentum for the city in a way that not many mayors get to claim. — Mark Ernst, former H&R Block CEO



Kay Barnes
Outstanding Kansas Citian
2015



Ethnic Enrichment Commission to receive NSDKC commemorative marker at the OKC

Started by Mayor Charlie Wheeler in 1976, The Ethnic Enrichment Commission began with a parade celebrating the many cultures that have contributed to Kansas City. The Ethnic Enrichment Festival has grown from 15 countries in 1976 to 60 countries in 2014 with 35,000 visitors.

Every August, Swope Park becomes the place to enjoy food, dancing, music and goods from other countries. Each country operates a booth and there are many activities for children such as face painting and crafts.

Where else can you find a geographical mashup with Haiti and Ukraine sharing a space or Greece between Jamaica and India? The aromas of different foods compete for your attention. The Festival is the only place in Kansas City where people can rub elbows with people of the world.

It is the responsibility and duty of each Ethnic Group to preserve the cultural heritage of their people not only for the benefit of their descendants but also for the enrichment of our entire community.

— Ethnic Enrichment Festival Guide

Mark your calendar and plan to attend Nov. 10. If you would like to volunteer to help with the silent auction, contact Linda Dillon at 913-338-3486 or linda.dillon@nsdkc.org.



Past Presidents welcome new NSDKC president for 2015

The above picture was taken at the annual Past Presidents Luncheon, held November 17 at the River Club. With the wonderful Thomas Hart Benton “Trading at Westport Landing” in the background, which is the approximate site of the River Club, the following past presidents were present (left to right): seated are Dot Benner (2012), Howard Hendricks, Jr. (1988), Norm Besheer (2011), Dan Creasy (2005), Richard (Dick) Fickle (1999) and Tom Sims (2008). Standing are Chuck Eddy (2013), Dan Sturdevant (2009), John Mura (1986), Carl DiCapo (2015), Gary Hicks (2010), John Dillingham (2003), John Hess, Sr. (2002), Jim Bernard, Jr. (2004), Whitney Kerr (NSDKC Board member and luncheon host), Ted Seligson (1989), and Ross Marshall (2014).

This is an annual event where the NSDKC Past Presidents meet to welcome and encourage the incoming NSDKC President for the coming year; in this case 2015 President Carl DiCapo.



A snowy street scene identified as 8th and Delaware. Weather has caused a traffic jam. An overhead transit bridge shows the Kansas City Public Service Company logo and slogan: “Safe Dependable Transit Service.” —*Kansas City Public Library*



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.



Officers for 2015:

President:

Carl DiCapo

1st Vice President:

John Hess, Jr.

2nd Vice President:

Diane Boos Pepper

Treasurer:

Mike Burke

Secretary:

Steve Noll

Historian:

John Dunnewind



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was held on November 12, 2014 at the Golden Ox restaurant. We had a wonderful turnout of 58 members and guests attending, and enjoying a great steak or salmon dinner. President Ross kept the meeting moving and entertaining. We approved the following slate of officers and board members nominated by the Nominating Committee consisting of Gary Hicks, Carl DiCapo, Ross Marshall, John Dunnewind, Jim Bernard, Norman Besheer, and Chair Chuck Eddy.

The following Board Members are leaving due to term limits: Joan Collins, Chuck Eddy, Whitney Kerr, and Jim Flanagan. Up for re-election for additional terms were Mike Burke and Robert Corum and both were elected for three year terms. The following were also elected to three year terms:

Carl DiCapo: *moved from a Board-Appointed Director position*

Steve Noll: *moved from a Board-Appointed Director position:*

John Hess, Jr. and Sharon Scott

Ross Marshall agreed to resign his last year of his last 3 year term due to his position as Chair of the Advisory Committee which is a Board position. Kevin Fewell was elected to this vacated Board position.



Greater Kansas City Restaurant Association historical marker dedicated Nov. 11

It was a very cold windy day on November 11. But we wisely had this year's second historical marker dedication ceremony at 1:30 pm on the third floor of the nearby Wall Street Towers building at 11th and Walnut, where GKCRA has its offices. It is next door to the Oppenstein Brothers Memorial Park where the marker had been installed.

The marker, pictured at right, was presented by NSDKC to the Greater Kansas City Restaurant Association at our 2014 Outstanding Kansas Citian event held October 15 (see page 2).

The marker honors the local GKCRA which was the founding group of the National Restaurant Association in 1916. In fact, that founding meeting was held in the approximate location of the marker in the basement of Myron Green's Cafeteria. The 100th Anniversary celebration will be in Kansas City in 2016 at the NRA annual convention. They have about 700 members in our area.

As NSDKC President, I welcomed the approximately 40 guests present and explained our organizational mission which is basically "To be dedicated to the historic preservation of the unique and rich heritage of the Great Kansas City Area through education, advocacy and restoration". One of the ways this mission is accomplished is the erection of historical markers and we now have about 50 in place.

Instead of the usual 'unveiling', I read the text of the marker to the group and thanked everyone for coming and sharing in this special occasion.

Ross Marshall, Chair of the NSDKC Historical Markers Committee, composed of Gary Hicks, Chris Sizemore, Ray Elder, Frank McMillian, Craig Crease, Whitney Kerr and Norine Accurso

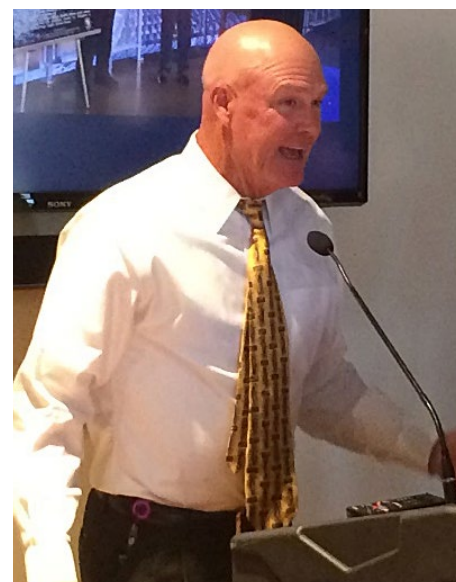


Upper right: Kansas City Councilwoman Jan Marcason and granddaughter

Right: President Ross Marshall addressing the group

Lower left: Bart Hickey, GKCRA President

Lower Right: Ed Holland, GKCRA Past President and 4th generation descendant of GKCRA founder Myron Green



Holiday Brunch offers music, delicious food, awards

The Annual Holiday Brunch is always a special and enjoyable event each year and this December 6 was no exception! Held at the Indian Hills Country Club, excellent music, food and ceremonies were enjoyed by all in attendance.

As usual, the music was provided by the Chuck Eddy Band and vocalist Lori Tucker during the reception period from 11:00 to 11:45 am. Incoming 1st Vice President John Hess, Jr. then introduced incoming 2nd Vice President Diane Pepper who gave the invocation.

After a sumptuous buffet, introductions of new Officers and Board of Directors members for 2015 were made.

Awards Committee Chair Cherie Davis then came forward and presented several awards to NSDKC members for their outstanding service and achievements. The only awardee not shown is Kathryn Pickering who received the Award of Appreciation for her work starting the awards program a few years ago.

To close the event, NSDKC members Dr. Bruce Prince-Joseph and vocalist Jeffrey Hon provided special music entertainment as they have in previous years.

A wonderful time was had by all at the Holiday Brunch, NSDKC's closing event for 2014.



Flanked by Cherie Davis and Ross Marshall, Norm Besheer receives the George E. Hicks Award for Perseverance for his long service on our Board, as a past president, and overall leadership in countless areas.



Cherie presents a Special Recognition Award to Chris Sizemore for his service as an officer and on several key committees.



Past President Chuck Eddy presents the President's Award to 2014 President Ross Marshall



Pictured above (l-r) are the incoming officers for 2015: 1st Vice President John Hess, Jr., President Carl DiCapo, 2nd Vice President Diane Pepper and Historian John Dunnewind at far right.



The Lee I. Pickering Award of Excellence was presented to Jim Flanagan (L) at his office by Ross Marshall, for his long service as our Treasurer and financial leader.

News on the Wornall/Majors House Museums

The Board of the Wornall/Majors House Museums, Inc. went through many transitions in 2014. Its former director, Ms. Anna Marie Tuter, resigned her position as Executive Director of Wornall/Majors (W/M) houses and now serves as the director of the Kansas City Museum. Ms. Kerrie Nichols is the new Executive Director and seeks to enhance educational programming and community outreach at both sites.

With structural repairs completed at the Wornall House, attention is being turned to the much needed repairs to the exterior of the Majors House. It is understood that the W/M Board plans to initiate repairs and upgrades to the historic home's exterior in 2015 with plans to address repairs a side at a time, probably on an annual basis. Wood rot

and deteriorated wood siding is apparent and thus will prove to be a costly and extensive project.

The noted Great Freighter of the West, Mr. Alexander Majors (as portrayed by Gary L. Hicks), was honored to be a guest speaker on October 4, 2014 at the re-dedication of the Home On The Range cabin located a few miles from the town of Smith Center, in northwest Kansas. The life and times of Majors was presented in an hour-long presentation, capturing the essence of Majors' exploits as a freighter; his numerous employees who later marked their own trails to notoriety; as co-founder of the Pony Express; his work for the Union Pacific Railroad; his presence at the driving of the Golden Spike at Promontory, Utah; his experiences as a prospector

for Silver in Utah; and as one of the founders of the National Cattlemen's Association.

'Majors' related his appreciation of his years as a freighter out on the range, which contributed to our understanding about how Dr. Brewster Higley could be so inspired to give birth to what became the Kansas State song, "Home On The Range".

Compliments to David Baumgartner for his years of service on the W/M Board. His dedication to our NSDKC W/M committee and the W/M Board has done much to preserve the heritage and facilities at the Majors House.

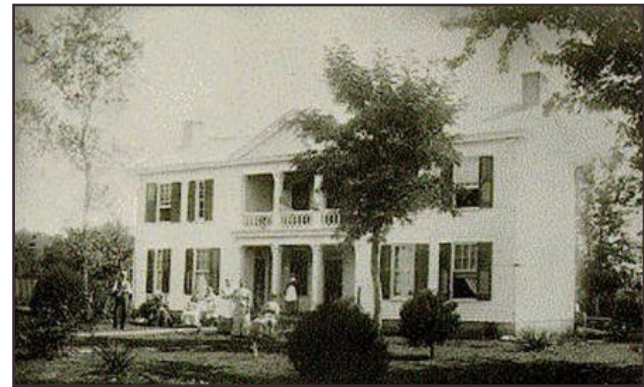
See <http://www.wornallmajors.org/>

Gary L. Hicks, Chair NSDKC - Wornall-Majors House Museums Committee



Partial frontal view with group of people in costume commemorating 60th anniversary of the Battle of Westport at the Wornall House.

All vintage photos in the newsletter courtesy of the Kansas City Public Library
Quote courtesy of the Wornall/Majors Houses Museum website



Postcard of the Alexander Majors residence

Wiley Britton, who came to the Wornall farm in the spring of 1858 as a hired hand, had this to say of John Wornall:

"He was a good man, a true gentleman and regarded by everybody in that section as one of its best and leading citizens, and a boy from home in my condition could not have fallen in with a better man, and surrounded with better influences than I found while living in his home, treated as one of the family. He had come from Kentucky several years before I came to him....He owned a beautiful farm...and treated me with genuine respect."